ABSTRACT

OF THE

MINUTES OF THE SYNOD

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OF CANADA.

AT ITS SESSIONS IN THE YEARS 1844, 1845, AND 1846.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE SYNOD.

TORONTO:
PRINTED AT THE BANNER OFFICE, 53 YONGE STREET,
1846.

NOTICE.

THE Minutes of the first meeting of the Synod were published without abridgment in the second number of the *Ecclesiastical and Missionary Record.*

Extracts only from the Minutes of the Meetings in October of the same year, and in June, 1845, were given in the same periodical. The Synod, indeed, at the latter of these meetings, appointed a Committee to publish a full abstract of the minutes of the then current sessions, to be prefaced with a historical statement of the causes and attendant circumstances of the separation from the Synod that is connected with the Scottish Establishment, but this publication was not carried through—the printing the extracts of the minutes in the *Record*, soon after the meeting of the Synod, was supposed to supersede the necessity of a full abstract, and one of the members of the Committee who had been preparing materials for the preface, was called on to direct his attention to another department of service to the Church.

The Minutes are now printed in this separate form in accordance with an injunction of the Synod at its session at Hamilton, on the 10th June last.

Any abridgment that has been made, has been chiefly in those of the sessions of 1844 and 1845, though even in these, the original narrative has been followed in every act, which it may be presumed can at any future time be made a subject of reference.

The publication it is hoped will avail for a history of the Synod thus far, and also for the guidance of the subordinate judicatories of the Church, and of its Office-bearers and members in all matters in which their conduct may be affected by the decisions of the Synod.

WM. RINTOUL,
Synod Clerk.

STRATHSPEY, *August* 1, 1846.

ABSTRACT, &c.

Preliminary meeting.

At Kingston the tenth day of July, one thousand eight hundred and forty-four years, which day there met in the Wesleyan Methodist Church, Wellington-street, the following Ministers and Elders, heretofore members of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, but who had just withdrawn from said Synod under two several Protests—viz:—

Sederunt.

John M. Roger, Thomas Alexander, Henry Gordon, Wm. Reid, Alexander M'Lean, William Rintoul, Henry Esson, David Black, Mark Y. Stark, Alexander Gale, Donald M'Kenzie, John Bayne, Angus Mackintosh, Daniel Allan, Duncan M'Millan, William Meldrum, George Cheyne, George Smellie, Robt. Peden, Ministers; and Alexander Lindsay, Isaac Weylie, James Webster, George Davidson, James F. Westland, Elders.

The Rev. Mark Y. Stark was called to the Chair, and the Rev. W. Rintoul appointed Secretary. The Chairman opened the meeting with prayer.

It was agreed that the Protests under which the Ministers and Elders composing the meeting, and others absent, had withdrawn from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, should be recorded, and they are as follows:—

PROTEST

Of certain Ministers and Elders belonging to the Synod of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland.

Protest.

WHEREAS, the Church, as the divinely constituted Depositary and Guardian of Revealed Truth, is specially bound to lift up her testimony for those particular Truths which are at any time endangered or overborne by the antagonist powers of this world—And Whereas those great and fundamental Truths which respect the supremacy of Christ in His Church, the spiritual independence of her rulers, their exclusive responsibiiity to her Great Head, the rights and privileges of His people, and the proper relation which should subsist between the Church and the State, are at the present day endangered, and have actually been overborne in the Established Church of Scotland, through recent encroachments of the State, upon the spiritual province, submitted to by her—And Whereas, in righteous testimony against these encroachments, great numbers

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Synod Clerk.

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Protest.

of Office-bearers and Members of said Church have solemnly and deliberately come out from her, and are now formally constituted into the FREE PROTESTING CHURCH OF SCOTLAND—a Church which has, during the last twelve months, enjoyed many unequivocal tokens of the approbation of her Great Head—And Whereas, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, apart from all considerations of a general kind, which should have led them to testify against the defections and corruptions of the said Established Church, were specially bound to do so, because of their connexion with said Church, and because also of reiterated testimonies solemnly and deliberately lifted up by the Synod in former years in behalf of the contendings of those who have been compelled to secede—And Whereas, the due and proper testimony against the defections and corruptions of the said Established Church of Scotland was a termination of the peculiarly close and intimate connexion in which this Synod stood to her—And Whereas, it has been in an orderly and constitutional way proposed to this Synod, having been made the subject of petitions and overtures of congregations and Presbyteries, whilst it has been advocated by many of the members, that this Synod should terminate its connexion with said Church, and alter its designation accordingly—And Whereas, this Synod, by the vote of a majority of its members, came to the decision that it shall not terminate said connexion, nor take other such action as was required:

WHEREFORE, we, the undersigned Ministers and Elders, members of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, DO, in our own name, as well as in the name of all who adhere to us, hereby DISSENT and PROTEST against said decision, for the following reasons:—

First,—That in our conscientious conviction, this Synod are thereby giving their virtual sanction to the procedure of the Established Church of Scotland in the great questions at issue between that Church and the Free Protesting Church of Scotland, and lending the weight of their influence, as a Church, to the support of principles which are incompatible with the purity and the liberty of any Church, by which they are allowed—and which are fitted at the same time to do grievous injury to the cause of the Redeemer throughout the world.

Second,—That in a cause relating to a Church in which they have many and obvious reasons for feeling a very deep and special interest—a cause too, in which the honour of Christ's Crown and

the interests of His Kingdom are intimately concerned,—they have refused to discharge the obvious duty of lifting up a full and unambiguous testimony for the truth, and thereby strengthening the hands of those who are witnessing for Christ, and suffering for His sake. Protest.

Third,—That after solemnly pledging themselves, in various forms, and at different times, to maintain the great principles for which the Free Protesting Church is now contending, and which the Established Church of Scotland has practically repudiated—and especially after the import and the sincerity of such pledges had been brought into question by the actings of various ministers, and even of one of the inferior Church Courts—they have virtually receded from their solemn pledges, and destroyed the weight of every expression of their opinions in favour of the aforesaid principles embodied in their records.

Fourth,—That by leaving an open door for the admission of Ministers and Elders from the Established Church of Scotland, holding unsound views on the great principles aforesaid, they have most seriously endangered the purity of the Church, and brought even her independence into peril, through the probable introduction of office-bearers, prepared to submit to the same encroachments of the Civil power by which the Church of Scotland has been enslaved.

Fifth,—That they have rendered the relation in which they stand towards the Established Church of Scotland so doubtful and equivocal, that even their declaration of spiritual independence is necessarily deprived of all significance and weight, that the terms in which their endowments are held, have been in effect declared to be such as are incompatible with the proper regulation of their intercourse with other Churches,—and even with free action in many other matters of greater importance, and that moreover, they have cast away the opportunity of placing this Church on a basis which might have gathered around her all the sound-hearted Presbyterianism of the Province.

Sixth,—That they have given additional weight to the practical arguments against establishments, furnished by the present position of the Established Church of Scotland—strengthened the hands of those who, in this Province, are denying the lawfulness and expediency of all national endowments for religious purposes, and rejected the opportunity which God in His providence had afforded them of proving to the world that entire freedom of action, and a jealous determination to guard against the encroachments of the

Protest.

Civil Power, were perfectly compatible with the enjoyment of the countenance and support of the State.

Seventh,—That in a matter in which the consciences of many of their Brethren were aggrieved, and for refusing relief in regard to which no moral necessity could be pleaded on their part, such relief has nevertheless been refused.

WHEREFORE, for all these and other reasons which might be stated, We DISSENT from the Decision to which this venerable court yesterday came; and while feeling painfully the solemnity of our position, and deeply distressed in the view of the possible results, WE SOLEMNLY PROTEST to this venerable court, before God, the Church of Christ, and the world, that it is our conscientious belief that in respect of the premises, sin in matters fundamental has been done by this court: and that while at the same time we continue to adhere to the Confession of Faith and other Standards of this Church, we can yet no longer, with a clear conscience, hold office in the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland—And further, we Protest that the guilt of Schism lies not with us, but with those who have acted in a way which compels us to depart—And further, also, we Protest, in behalf of ourselves and those of the people of this Church, who may now or hereafter adhere to us, that we hold ourselves entitled to all the property and emoluments, of whatever kind, now in our possession.

JOHN BAYNE, Minister.
THOS. ALEXANDER, "
ALEX. MACLEAN "
M. Y. STARK, Moderator.
GEORGE SMELLIE, Minister.
WILLIAM RINTOUL, "
DAVID BLACK, "
ANGUS MACKINTOSH, "
ROBERT LINDSAY, "
JAMES DOUGLAS, "
WILLIAM LITSTER, Elder.
WILLIAM CLARK, "
ALLAN HENDERSON, "
JAMES NOBLE, "
RALPH SMITH, "
ALEXANDER LINDSAY, "
JOHN BURNS, "

ALEXANDER GALE, Minister.
HENRY GORDON, "
DANIEL ALLAN, "
GEORGE CHEYNE, "
WM. MACALISTER, "
H ESSON, "
DONALD MCKENZIE, "
WM. MELDRUM, "
ROBERT PEDEN, "
ANDREW MILNE, Elder.
ISAAC WEYLIE, "
JAMES WEBSTER, "
DONALD FRASER, "
GEO. DAVIDSON, "
ROBERT THOMPSON, "
ROBERT TURNBULL, "
J. F. WESTLAND, "

JOHN MATHIESON, Elder.
PETER MCNAUGHTON, "
PETER DRUMMOND, Elder.
FRANCIS ANDERSON, "
DUNCAN MCMILLAN, Minister.

Kingston, 10th day of July 1844.

[The within Protest signed in our presence.]

J. C. MORRISON, *Notary Public.*
GEORGE BROWN, *Witness.*

REASONS OF DISSENT AND PROTEST

Dissent and Protest.

Given in to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, by JOHN MORRICE ROGER, *and* WILLIAM REID, *Ministers, in regard to a decision of that Court, on the subject of the independence of the Church and its connexion with the Church of Scotland.*

I. Because believing the Church in this land to be virtually independent, its real connexion with the Church of Scotland consisting in its descent from that Church, and its adherence to the same standards, a connexion which it is not desired to renounce, and which cannot in reality be renounced, yet being aware that much misapprehension prevails with regard to the position of this Church in reference to the Church of Scotland, misapprehension which tends to distract the minds of our people, and to impair to some extent the efficiency of the Church; we hold it to be the duty of the Synod to establish the independence of the Church in such a manner as cannot be misunderstood, and to accommodate the title and designation of the Church to its real condition, and the object which it is intended to effect, namely, to promote the spiritual interests of the Presbyterian population of Canada.

II. Because we consider an alteration of the title and designation of the Church, and a full assertion of its independence necessary to render effective any testimony borne to the great principles of spiritual independence, which were for many years contended for in the Church of Scotland, and the assertion of which ultimately issued in the disruption of that Church; and farther, because we believe that to acquiesce in the decision of the Synod with regard to the position of the Church would be virtually to declare adherence to the Established Church of Scotland, and approbation of her actings and proceedings.

For these and other reasons which might be stated, we Dissent from and Protest against the decision of the Synod in the matter referred to; and farther, we declare and Protest that we can no

longer continue as Office-bearers in the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland.

(Signed) JOHN M. ROGER,
Minister at Peterboro'.

(Signed) WILLIAM REID,
Minister at Colborne & Grafton.

KINGSTON, *July* 10, 1844,

(Signed) ALEX. GALE, *Witness.*
(Signed) WM. RINTOUL, *Witness.*

Synod Formed After conference held, and on motion made and seconded, the meeting, in conformity with the import of these protests, and in accordance with their powers as Office-bearers in the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ, in Canada, unanimously resolved to constitute themselves into a Synod, under the designation of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada; and the Chairman thereupon declared the Synod to be constituted.

Prayer. Mr. Roger, on the call of the Chairman, offered up prayer for the Divine blessing on the Synod, and on the Church represented by it.

Moderator and Clerk. On motion made and seconded, Mr. Stark was unanimously chosen Moderator for the ensuing twelve months, and Mr. Rintoul was unanimously appointed Clerk to the Synod.

Committees. Committees were then appointed for arranging business—for forming the Church into Presbyteries—on the institution of a Sustentation Fund—on the organizing of a Court of Deacons in every congregation—for preparing an Address to Congregations, respecting the grounds of our breaking off the connexion with the Established Church of Scotland.

Mr. Boyd admitted. Mr. Robert Boyd, of Prescott, appeared in the Synod, and gave satisfactory evidence that he had received a regular dismission from the Presbytery of Bathurst; Mr. Boyd at the same time expressed his regret at having precipitately, and without a due regard to Presbyterial order, given in his resignation to said Presbytery soon after the meeting of Synod in 1842—a step which he stated had prevented him from taking part in the recent discussions in the Synod in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and also from joining in the Protest signed by Mr. Bayne and other brethren. He also declared his approbation of said Protest:—Whereupon, the Synod, in consideration of these statements and explanations, unanimously received Mr. Boyd as a member of Synod, and he took his seat accordingly.

Division of Church into Presbyteries. Committees were appointed to meet to-morrow at 9 o'clock, A. M. The Synod to be constituted for business immediately on their rising—and a public meeting for prayer and an address by one of the brethren, to be held at 4, P. M.

The Synod then adjourned, and was closed with prayer.

KINGSTON, 11*th July*, 1844.

The Synod met and was constituted with prayer.

Mr. Peter McNaughton, Elder, a signer of Mr. Bayne's Protest, was admitted a member, and took his seat. The Minutes of the former Session were read. The Report of the Committee on the division of the Church into Presbyteries was read and sustained, and the Synod in accordance with their recommendation made the following division:—

I.—HAMILTON AND TORONTO.
II.—COBOURG.
III.—KINGSTON.
IV.—MONTREAL.

These Presbyteries to embrace the Ministers, with their Congregations, according to the following scheme:—

HAMILTON AND TORONTO.

William Rintoul,	*Streetsville.*
Alexander Gale,	*Hamilton.*
William Macalister,	*Port Sarnia.*
Duncan McMillan,	*Williams.*
Mark Y. Stark,	*Dundas.*
George Cheyne,	*Saltfleet.*
Angus Mackintosh,	*Thorold.*
John Bayne,	*Galt.*
Donald McKenzie,	*Zorra.*
Daniel Allan,	*Stratford.*
William Meldrum,	*Puslinch.*
Robert Lindsay,	*Ayr.*
George Smellie,	*Fergus.*
Robert Peden,	*Amherstburgh.*

COBOURG.

James Douglass, - - - - - - - - - *South Cavan.*
John M. Roger, - - - - - - - - - *Peterboro & Cavan.*
Thomas Alexander, - - - - - - - - *Cobourg.*
William Reid, - - - - - - - - - *Grafton & Colborne.*

KINGSTON.

Robert Boyd, - - - - - - - - - - *Prescott.*
Henry Gordon, - - - - - - - - - *Gananoque.*
Alexander McLean, - - - - - - - - *Picton.*

MONTREAL.

Henry Esson, - - - - - - - - - - *Montreal.*
David Black, - - - - - - - - - - *St. Therese.*

The Synod also, on the recommendation of the Committee, appointed the following Ministers to be Moderators of their several Presbyteries for the ensuing six months, with power to appoint the times and place for the first meeting of each respectively, viz.: Mr. William Rintoul, Mr. J. M. Roger, Mr. Henry Gordon, Mr. Henry Esson;—Mr. Gordon to act as assessor to the Presbytery of Montreal, until the number of Ministers in said Presbytery shall be increased.

Deaconship. The Committee on the office of Deacon made an interim report, when it was resolved that Sessions be recommended to take such immediate measures for having the work proper for Deacons done as to them may seem good, and to report to their Presbyteries before the next meeting of Synod.

Sustentation Fund. The Committee on a Sustentation Fund gave in a report which was read and sustained, when it was agreed to refer the same to the Commission to be afterwards appointed, with instructions to them to arrange a Scheme for a common Sustentation Fund, and to have the same brought into operation as speedily as possible.

Address to Gov. General. The draft of an address to his Excellency the Governor-General was submitted and revised, and the Moderator was authorised to have the same engrossed, to sign it in name of the Synod, and transmit it to His Excellency.

Address to Congregations Mr. Bayne, on behalf of the Committee, submitted an outline of an address to congregations: the same was approved of in substance, and he was requested to fill it up and to submit it to the Commission, that they may revise and print the same for

general circulation. The Clerk was appointed to act as interim Treasurer: and it was resolved that contributions to the Synod Fund be payable in three months from this date.

Record. The Synod resolved that a small publication shall be issued every fortnight or month, as may be deemed expedient, under the title of THE RECORD OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA; the principal object of which, shall be to diffuse information respecting the schemes and undertakings of the Church, and illustrate its principles. The Commission to superintend the Publication, and assume the responsibility of the same.

Committee on Legal Advice. The Synod appointed the Moderator and Mr. Bayne, Ministers, and Mr. Henderson, Elder, a Committee for obtaining legal advice in any case in which that may be required, for the civil interests of congregations.

Com. on Correspondence. The Synod appointed the Moderator, Mr. Gale, and Mr Rintoul, a Committee for correspondence, with instuctions to intimate to the Colonial Mission Committee of the Free Church of Scotland, and the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the formation of this Synod, and to represent to them the need of Missionaries, and to make such communications to other Churches respecting the formation of the Synod as they shall see fit.

Ministers, how to be admitted. The Synod resolved to receive any Minister now on the roll of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and in good standing in said Synod, who shall within two months of this date signify in writing to the Moderator or Clerk of any of the Presbyteries of this Church his adherence to either of the Protests made by the members of this Synod in withdrawing from the aforesaid Synod.

Commission. The Synod resolved that a Commission be appointed for attending to the general interests of the Church, and for conducting and determining such business and causes as may be devolved on it by this Synod; to meet at Hamilton on the 7th August next, at 3 P. M.

Candidates for Ministry. The Synod agreed to recommend Presbyteries to inquire after young men of pious character and suitable gifts who may be aiming at the ministry, and to use all competent means for directing and forwarding their education. The Synod also agreed to write to students who adhere to this Church, to report their adherence as soon as possible to the Presbyteries within whose bounds they reside.

Thanks for use of Methodist Church. The Synod resolved that their thanks be tendered through the Clerk to the Minister and Trustees of the Wesleyan Methodist Church for the accommodation enjoyed therein by the Synod, during its sittings in Kingston.

Next Meeting. It was agreed that the next meeting of the Synod be held at Toronto, on Wednesday the 9th of October next, at the hour of 7 P. M., and in such place as the Commission may direct.

Business for Commission. It was agreed that the Commission shall give their attention to the following subjects:—the education of students; a scheme of the various objects for which funds are required by the Synod, and the best mode of raising the same; a Home Mission Scheme; and arrangements for the next meeting of Synod.

Devotional Exercises. The Synod devoted a portion of the day to praise, prayer and exhortation: Mr. Gale and Mr. Bayne engaged in prayer, and Mr. Smellie gave an address.

It was agreed that the minutes be printed in an early number of the *Record*.

The Synod was then closed with the Apostolical blessing.

WILLIAM RINTOUL, A. M.,
SYNOD CLERK.

MINUTES OF THE SYNOD AT TORONTO.

SESSION 1.

October 9th, 1844.

Moderator's Sermon. At Toronto, and within the United Secession Church there, the ninth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and forty-four years, which day the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada met by appointment. Mr. Mark Y. Stark, the Moderator, after the usual devotional exercises preached a sermon from Deuteronomy, chapter iv. verses 7-9.

The Synod was constituted for business.

The Roll was called, and the members present marked.

(The Roll is as follows. The asterisk prefixed to the name denotes that the member was in attendance at this or some of the subsequent Sessions):—

Roll.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
Daniel W. Eastman,	- - - - - - - - -	*Grimsby.*
*Alexander Gale - - -	*James Webster - -	*Hamilton.*
William Macalister - -	- - - - - - - - -	*Port Sarnia.*
*George Cheyne - - -	John Colville - - -	*Saltfleet.*
Duncan McMillan - -	Donald Frazer - - -	*Williams.*
*Mark Y. Stark - - -	*William Dixon - -	*Dundas.*
*John Bayne - - - -	*Allan Henderson - -	*Galt.*
*Donald McKenzie - -	John Matheson - -	*Zorra.*
*Angus Mackintosh - -	Peter Drummond - -	*Thorold.*
*George Smellie - - -	Francis Anderson - -	*Fergus.*
Daniel Allan - - - -	- - - - - - - - -	*Stratford.*
*William Meldrum - -	Peter McNaughton -	*Puslinch.*
*Robert Lindsay - - -	James Hastie - - -	*Ayr.*
Robert Peden - - - -	James Noble - - -	*Amherstburgh.*
_____	*George Davidson - -	*Woolwich.*
_____	Robert Martin - - -	*Guelph.*
_____	- - - - - - - - -	*London.*
_____	- - - - - - - - -	*St. Thomas.*
_____	*George Henry - -	*Aldboro'.*
_____	- - - - - - - - -	*Wellandport.*
_____	- - - - - - - - -	*Woodstock.*

MARK Y. STARK, *Dundas, Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*William Rintoul	Isaac Weylie	*Streetsville.*
*James Harris	*Malcolm McLellan	*Toronto 1st Presb. Church.*
*Andrew King, *Off. Min.*	*James F. Westland	*Knox's Church.*
———	*John Burns	*Acton.*
———	———	*Nassagaweya.*
———	———	*Union Church, Esquesing.*
———	David Gibson	*Caledon.*
———	*John Ross	*York Mills.*
———	———	*Oakville and Trafalgar Mills.*
———	———	*West Gwillimbury.*

WILLIAM RINTOUL, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*John M. Roger	Robert Thomson	*Peterboro'.*
*Thomas Alexander	*Andrew Milne	*Cobourg.*
*William Reid	*John Munro	*Grafton and Colborne.*
*James Douglass	Robert Turnbull	*Cavan, South.*

WILLIAM REID, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
William Smart	George McNish	*Brockville.*
*Robert Boyd	Robert Campbell	*Prescott.*
*Henry Gordon	Alexander Lindsay	*Gananoque.*
*James Rogers	———	*Demorestville.*
*Alexander McLean	*David Andrews	*Picton.*
Thomas Wightman	———	*Camden.*
———	———	*Kingston.*
———	———	*Belleville.*
———	———	*Perth.*
———	———	*Ramsay.*
———	———	*Carleton Place.*
———	———	*South Gower, Oxford and Mountain.*
———	———	*Osgoode.*

WILLIAM M'LEAN, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*Henry Esson	James Lesslie	*St. Gabriel St., Montreal.*
John Clugston	James Gibb	*Quebec.*
*David Black	John Hettrick	*St. Therese.*
*Thomas Henry	———	*La Chute.*
Daniel Clark	———	*Indian Lands, Glengary.*

DAVID BLACK, *St. Therese, Presbytery Clerk.*

The Moderator was recommended to allow the appropriate and excellent Sermon preached by him to be printed in the *Record* as a suitable vehicle for its obtaining a wide circulation through the bounds of the Church. Sermon to be published.

The Synod to be opened every morning with reading of the Holy Scriptures, praise and prayer.

SESSION II.

THURSDAY MORNING,
10*th October*, 1844.

A Committee was appointed to confer with a deputation from the Presbytery of Niagara, who were in attendance, to negotiate with the Synod respecting a union with the Synod. Deputation from Niagara Presbytery.

Mr. Esson introduced Mr. Andrew King and Mr. John Macnaughtan, ministers of the Free Church of Scotland, and a deputation from that church. The Moderator in name of the Synod expressed a cordial welcome to these brethren, and they were invited to take their seats with the Synod, and take part in their counsels and deliberations, and they accordingly took their seats. Deputation from Free Church.

The Synod agreed to a request from a deputation of the Secession Synod of Canada, to be heard this evening. Deputation from Secession Synod.

The Synod agreed to hear the deputation from the Free Church at the Session of Friday evening.

SESSION III.

TORONTO, THURSDAY,
10th October, 3, P. M.

Letter from Dr. Burns.

The Clerk read a letter from Dr. Burns of the Free Church, Paisley, expressing his readiness, in certain circumstances, to devote himself to the work of instructing the students for the ministry in our church.

The Synod agreed to take up this letter in connexion with the subject of the Education of Students.

Overture respecting Elders.

The Synod having had transmitted to them an Overture for a recommendation on the part of the Synod to Elders to conduct the devotional services of congregations on the Lord's Day, in the absence of ministers or missionaries; also a report on the Deaconship, from the Committee on that subject, approved of the Overture and sustained the Report, and agreed to submit to Presbyteries and the Congregations under their charge, the following brief exhortations and notices regarding the offices of the Elders and Deacons:—

1st. To the prosperity of this Church, and the right administration of the ordinances and discipline thereof, it is essential that "they have clean hands who bear the vessels of the Lord;" wherever, therefore, a Session does not exist, or where it is so weak in numbers that additional Elders are required, let the congregation give itself unto prayer, seeking that the Lord, the searcher of hearts, may direct its choice to men of tried and approved piety, and such as may be expected to devote themselves prudently and zealously to the work of the Lord in their particular sphere.

2d. Let the Elders be admonished that their work does not consist in attending to the Collections, or any merely external regulations of the House of God; though, in the absence of other office-bearers, they may be charged with these concerns in addition to their own peculiar and indispensable duties;—that their office is to watch for souls, to rule in the Church, and especially and peculiarly to assist the Minister in the examination of candidates for sealing ordinances, in visiting the sick, instituting and conducting prayer-meetings, inquiring after the fruits of the preaching of the Word, superintending Sabbath-schools, promoting the observance of Family Worship, and in faithfully administering the discipline of the Church. And the Synod now earnestly recommend that in addition to these the ordinary and proper functions of their Divinely appointed office, they, according as

Duties of Elders.

the Lord may have given them the needed graces and gifts, and with the concurrence and directions of their respective sessions, occupy themselves as frequently as possible in ministering to the wants of their brethren at mission stations, or in localities where the labours of a stated pastor cannot be obtained, as well as in the absence of their own minister; and that the particular exercises at any such services, whether on a week-day or on the Lord's Day, shall be such as are approved of, either by the Session or the Presbytery of the bounds; and it is hoped that all the Presbyteries, by thus availing themselves of the gifts of pious men, may be able to provide a temporary supply of ordinances for our scattered people; and those few sheep in the wilderness, looking to the Great Shepherd of the flock for His grace, may happily know that these, our temporary arrangements for their comfort and edification, are not altogether ineffectual.

3d. With regard to the secular affairs of the Church, it is most desirable that the Eldership should be disengaged from these, that Elders may be exempted even from the temptation to think that their duty is discharged by any oversight of the pecuniary affairs of the congregation, however prudent and anxious that oversight may be. And with this view it is earnestly recommended to Sessions to see that men be set apart to the office of Deacons without delay, according to the Scriptural institution, in their several congregations; and that the Deacons in all cases, excepting where established arrangements cannot be dispensed with, shall take a general supervision of all the monetary and secular affairs of the Church, as in respect to the repairs of the edifices, and the expenses connected with these, the raising of funds for missions, Sabbath-schools, the Sustentation and other Synod funds, the supplementing the ministers Stipend and so forth. And in order to this, it is necessary that the deacons should possess some capacity for business—that they should be men of activity and zeal, as well as of prudence and piety, and withal of good report. And the Synod trust that congregations will seek for these qualifications in those whom they call to the honourable and important office of Deacon. Young men especially, who have devoted themselves to the Lord, and who study to adorn their Christian profession, will in general be found to be the most efficient labourers in this department.

Committee on Deacon's Court.

The Synod appointed Mr. Cheyne [Convener], Mr. Bayne, Mr. Smellie, Ministers, and Mr. Davidson, Mr. Dixon and Mr. Webster, Elders, a Committee on the Deacon's Court, with instructions to

them to take its constitution into their serious consideration; to correspond on the subject with ministers and Sessions, and to report a scheme that may be proposed to the Synod for adoption at the next ordinary meeting. And the Synod, confiding in the wisdom and prudence of Sessions and congregations, leave it to them to make such interim arrangements for managing their secular affairs, as they may deem advisable.

The Synod resolved that this minute shall be read by ministers to their congregations, on some early Sabbath after it shall have come into their hands in the printed minutes of the Synod.

Stated Collections.

The Presbytery of Cobourg, in conformity with an injunction of the commission, produced a report on the various objects requiring stated contributions from congregations, and on the best mode of raising these; and the same having been read and considered, was sustained. And the Synod, agreeably to its recommendations, unanimously resolved: That stated collections be made for the following objects:—First, for the Synod Fund; secondly for the Educational Scheme; and thirdly, for the Home Mission Scheme;—and that all ministers and Sessions be enjoined to make these collections. And with a view to regularity, the Synod recommend that these collections be made as far as practicable, on stated Sabbaths in each year, viz.:—That for the Synod Fund, on the first Sabbath immediately before the annual meeting of the Synod, or before the minister in any particular congregation shall leave home to attend said meeting; that for the Home Mission Scheme, on the first Sabbath of October, and in the present year the earliest convenient Sabbath thereafter; and that for the Educational Scheme, on the first Sabbath of February.—Ministers to give notice of these collections in due time, and endeavour to stir up their people to increased liberality. The Synod farther recommend ministers and Sessions to give their people an opportunity of contributing to the India Missions, and the Jewish Mission of the Free Church of Scotland, believing that in this way a Missionary spirit may be cultivated amongst them, and they brought to recognise the privilege as well as the duty of aiding in extending the kingdom of the Redeemer throughout the world.

SESSION IV.

TORONTO, THURSDAY,
10th October, 7 *P. M.*

Deputation from Secession Synod.

Mr. Gale introduced Mr. Professor Proudfoot, Mr. Robert H. Thornton, and Mr. John Jennings, ministers, a deputation from the Missionary Presbyterian Synod of Canada, in connexion with the United Associate Synod in Scotland. These brethren congratulated the Synod on the position which it had assumed, and expressed their desire for a friendly intercourse between it and the Synod which they represented, and severally addressed the Synod at considerable length, when, on motion made and seconded, and spoken to by several of the brethren, it was unanimously resolved to record the sense of thankfulness to the Great Head of the Church entertained by this Synod on account of the visit of this deputation, as being an earnest of greater union amongst sound Presbyterian Churches in this Province, and to record also the desire of the Synod to cultivate this union, and their purpose to reciprocate the visit by sending a deputation to the next meeting of the Missionary Presbyterian Synod of Canada.

Report on Niagara Presbytery.

The Report of the Committee for conferring with the deputation from the Niagara Presbytery, was called for and read, and it is as follows:

"The committee beg leave to report, that after much friendly communing and inquiry as to the principles and procedure of the Presbytery, they are enabled to state that that body consists of seven ministers, having the charge of fifteen congregations: that they hold, in common with ourselves, the Westminster Confession of Faith as their standard; and as a Presbytery, maintain and uphold its doctrines in what is usually termed the Calvinistic sense, holding fast by the great cardinal doctrines of the divine sovereignty, the decree of election, and the imputation of the righteousness of Christ, as distinguished from the views which, on account of their extreme character, are usually styled Antinomian and Arminian; in all matters connected with the admission of members, the administration of discipline, and the ordination of ministers, their practice is substantially the same with our own, and that of the Free Church of Scotland. They do not question the obligation of civil governments as such, to honour Christ as the King of Kings, and the Governor amongst the nations; although on the propriety of the Church's accepting endowments from the State, in the

present divided state of the Church, and its relationship to the world, they have great difficulties. In submitting this information, the committee earnestly recommend to the Synod, that measures should be adopted for immediate co-operation with this Presbytery in all matters of common interest relative to the conversion of souls; that copies of the Protest, and of the resolutions on which the Protest was founded, should immediately be forwarded to the Presbytery; and *quoad ultra*, that a committee be appointed to attend their next meeting, with power to arrange such terms of union as may be agreeable to that Presbytery, to be submitted to the Synod at the next meeting, for their approval."

"THOMAS ALEXANDER,

"*Clerk of Joint Com.*"

Deputation from Niagara Presbytery.

Dr. Blanchard and Mr. Close, ministers, a deputation from the Presbytery, were introduced; and severally addressed the Synod at considerable length. Thereafter several members of Synod spoke, when, on motion made and seconded, it was unanimously agreed, That the Report be sustained and adopted, and that the Synod record their sense of gratitude to the Great Head of the Church for the visit from this Deputation, and their purpose to carry out the recommendations of the Committee.

The Moderator communicated this Resolution to the Deputation, and on his call, the Synod and congregation engaged in singing a part of the 122nd Psalm, and Mr. Bayne offered up prayer and thanksgiving.

SESSION V.

TORONTO, FRIDAY,
11*th October*, 11 *A.M.*

Mr. Beaton received.

Mr. William Beaton, a licentiate of the Free Church of Scotland, received as probationer of this church, to be under the direction of the Presbytery of Montreal, so long as he is within their bounds.

The Committee on Returns from Congregations reported an abstract of the same.

Sustentation Scheme.

The Synod took up the Sustentation Scheme, as devised by the Commission. Mr. McNaughtan and Mr. King were heard on the details of the scheme now in successful operation in the Free Church.—Subject to be resumed.

SESSION VI.

TORONTO, FRIDAY,
11*th October*, 3 *P.M.*

Commission's Scheme set aside.

Consideration of Sustentation Scheme resumed.—Commission's scheme set aside. When after further discussion, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously agreed to: That, forasmuch as the fund proposed to be established by the Commission, though called a sustentation fund, is properly only a supplementary fund; and that a common sustentation fund, sustained by the exertions of all the congregations, and one on which all the ministers shall depend, is to be preferred to any merely supplementary fund: therefore, the scheme devised by the Commission shall be set aside, as it is hereby declared to be, and that a committee be appointed to devise and arrange the details of a common sustentation fund, and report before the rising of the Synod.

A committee was accordingly appointed.

Mr. Clugston received.

Mr. John Clugston, minister of St. John's Church, Quebec, with his congregation, is received into the church; and his name, with that of James Gibb, Esq., elder, are added to the Roll of the Presbytery of Montreal.

Mr. Wardrope

Mr. Thomas Wardrope, student of divinity, and teacher of the District School, Bytown, is received as a student for the ministry in this church.

Communica'n from Synod in connection with Establishment

The Committee of Bills and Overtures transmitted a communication from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, overturing to this Synod the appointment of two committees to confer and deal with committees on their part: the one for arbitrating in questions of disputed church property, and the other for negotiating about a reunion with that body.

A committee is appointed to draft an answer, and submit the same before the rising of the Synod.

The Records of the Synod and Commission were attested.

Draft of Testimony.

Mr. Bayne, in name of the Committee appointed by the Commission for preparing the draft of a testimony, reported an outline of heads. Report sustained. Committee appointed to fill up the heads and complete the draft against the next meeting of Synod.

Evening Meeting.

The Synod agreed to meet this evening in the Congregational Church, with a view to the accommodation of a larger audience at the addresses to be given by the Deputation from the Free Church of Scotland.

SESSION VII.

TORONTO, FRIDAY,
11th October, 7 *P. M.*

The Synod met in the Congregational Church, and was constituted with praise and prayer.

Communica'n from Free Church.

The Clerk produced and read an extract from the Minutes of the Commission of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, of date 14th August last, containing various resolutions expressive of sympathy with this church, and their desire, in various ways to assist us; also an extract from the Minutes of the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland, of date the second day of September of the present year, nominating and appointing the Rev. Andrew King, minister of St Stephen's Church, Glasgow, the Rev. John Macnaughtan, minister of the High Church, Paisley, and the Rev. John McMillan, minister of Cardross, to proceed to Canada as representatives of the Free Church of Scotland, and commissioning them to express their deep interest in the spiritual prosperity of their brethren in Canada, and generally to co-operate with them to the utmost of their ability, in advancing the cause of Christ in Canada. Also a letter from the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, of date the twenty-first August, the tenor whereof follows:

"CHAMBERS OF THE FREE CHURCH,
"*Edinburgh*, 7, *N. St. Andrew St.*
"21*st August*, 1844."

"REVEREND AND DEAR SIR,

Letter of Moderator of Free Church.

"I am instructed by the Commission of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, met here on the 14th instant, to transmit to you, as Moderator of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, the enclosed extract from its proceedings:—

"The members of Commission and our Ministers and people universally, contemplate with joy, and with sincere gratitude to the God of all Grace, the intelligent and faithful adherence to the principles we have been called to contend for, of so many of our esteemed brethren in Canada and Nova Scotia, who have all along been in close though voluntary connection with the Church of Scotland. If in supporting and acting on these principles, which are equally important to the Church of Christ in all lands, you have had to encounter difficulties, to combat prejudices, to withdraw from those with whom you once acted, and to suffer loss for Christ's and the Gospel's sake, we trust you will receive a reward ample as the Saviour's promise—"a hundred fold in this world, and in the world to come life everlasting." In your present circumstances of trial, it will be gratifying to you to learn that "the things that have happened unto us" in the progress of our affairs "have fallen out" eminently "unto the furtherance of the Gospel." A spirit of prayer has been awakened in many, with a visibly increased attention to the word of God: the relation between the pastor and the flock has become more intimate and affectionate, and the mutual fellowship of the members of the Church has been greatly promoted. If "not many wise men after the flesh, or mighty or noble" have joined our ranks, yet "the word of the Lord has free course and is glorified;" and the disciples begin to be known, as at the first, by their love one to another. It is felt by many as a matter of thankfulness that God has permitted them to live into the times of our Free Church, and to see in some measure the fulfilment of long cherished wishes and prayers.

"Amid the many calls made on us at home, we fear we shall not have it in our power to do much for our brethren at a distance; yet we trust that the messengers and ministers we propose to send, may give you some help in the forming and settling of congregations; and that your combined counsels may lead to some effectual means of providing a supply of faithful men for the ministry among you. To raise up such men and qualify them for their work, is the special office of the King of Zion; and in bestowing them on any church he indeed confers one of his most precious gifts.

"In concluding, I beg, in the name of the Commission, to assure you of our best wishes and prayers, and to solicit for ourselves an interest in your intercessions. And I remain,

"Your friend and servant in the Lord,

"HENRY GREY,

"*Moderator of the late General Assembly*
"*of the Free Church of Scotland.*"

"To the Rev. MODERATOR of the Synod
"of the Presbyterian Church of Canada."

Messrs. King and Macnaughtan.

Mr. King and Mr. Macnaughtan were introduced, when these brethren successively addressed the Synod and the congregation at great length, and to the deep-felt interest of all present; whereupon, on motion made and seconded, the Synod agreed to record

the high satisfaction and delight they have experienced in listening to the able and eloquent addresses of the Deputation from the Free Church of Scotland; and to record also the grounds there are for thanksgiving and praise to the Great Head of the Church, for the wonderful things he has done for our brethren in Scotland, and which he is doing through them for the advancement of his cause in the world; and the special obligations under which the Synod lie to the Free Church for sending forth, as her representatives to this church, brethren so well qualified to stimulate, encourage, and counsel the Synod in the present position of affairs, as the Deputation have proved themselves to be.

Several brethren addressed the Synod and congregation. The Moderator communicated the thanks of the Synod to the Deputation.

The 125th Psalm was sung,—prayer offered up, when the Synod and assembly were dismissed with the Apostolical blessing, at half-past eleven o'clock.

SESSION VIII.

TORONTO, SATURDAY,
12*th October*, 9 *A. M.*

The Synod not to meet this afternoon or evening, that congregations in the neighbourhood may be supplied with ordinances to-morrow.

Union with Evangelical Churches.

The subject of union with other evangelical churches having been brought before the Synod, it was resolved that any members of Synod who shall be in town on the forenoon of Monday, shall be a committee to meet and deliberate on this subject with the ministers of evangelical churches in Toronto.

The Synod had conference on the education of young men for the ministry.

Agreed to meet on Monday, at 3, P. M.

SESSION IX.

TORONTO, MONDAY,
14*th October*, 3 *P. M.*

Agreed, That the division of the church into Presbyteries should be made according to territorial limits, and a committee appointed to draft a scheme of division.

Act respecting Elders to Synod.

The Synod had under consideration the importance of having a full representation of Sessions by Ruling Elders at the meetings of the Synod, when the following Act was unanimously passed, to be in force for the ensuing year, and unless objected to by a majority of Presbyteries, to become a standing law of the church:—

Whereas, in the peculiar circumstances of this Church, called, in the providence of God, to remodel many of its arrangements, and to give effect to principles that are essential to its prosperity, it is desirable that there should be in its Synods a full and complete representation of all its congregations, and especially that there should be a full expression of the mind of the Christian people by means of the Eldership; and whereas, from the extent of territory over which the Church is scattered, and the consequent distance of many congregations from the place where the Synod meet, as well also as from the pressing occupations of many of the Elders, it has been found extremely difficult to have a full attendance of Elders at the meetings of Synod:—Be it therefore enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Session legally convened, and after due notice given, to elect and appoint as their representative to the Synod, any Elder in good and regular standing in any other Session of this Church, and that the following form of commission shall be followed in such a case:—

At ———, the ——— day of ———, one thousand &c. years, which day the Session of ——— having met and been constituted, (*inter alia*):—The Session proceeded to elect a representative to the ensuing meeting of Synod, when Mr. A B., an Elder in the Session of C., was nominated and chosen; wherefore the Session did, and hereby do appoint the said A. B. to be their representative, willing him to have in view in all his actings, the best interests of the Church and the glory of God, and they authorise the Moderator or Clerk to subscribe this as his commission as their representative Elder.

(Signed) D. E., *Moderator* (*or Clerk*), as the case may be.

Cheap Publication Scheme.

The Synod agreed to recommend to the members and adherents of the Church, the Cheap publication Scheme of the Free Church of Scotland, and authorise the Commission to be afterwards named, to appoint agencies for said scheme in the principal towns of the Province, and to notify the same through the *Record*.

SESSION X.

TORONTO, 14*th October*,
Monday, 7 *P. M.*

Mr. Leishman received.

The Synod agreed to receive Mr. William Leishman, a licentiate of the Free Church of Scotland, as a probationer of this Church.

Act—Admission of Preachers, &c.

The Synod had under consideration an Overture respecting the admitting into this Church of Preachers and Ministers from other Churches, when, after deliberation, the Synod unanimously passed the following Act, willing the same to continue in force until a majority of Presbyteries shall call for its being altered or rescinded, or until the Synod shall alter or rescind the same.

(This act was amended in the Synod at Cobourg, Session VII., 9th June, 1845.)

Act respecting Students.

The report of the committee of the whole house on the education of students, was brought up, and the same having been read and considered, and variously amended, the Synod ordained as follows:—

1*st*. That an interim Professor of Divinity be appointed, and that Mr. King be appointed to the office for the ensuing session.

2*ndly*. That there shall be a Professor of Literature and Science for conducting the studies of young men aiming at the ministry, and that Mr. Esson be appointed to this office.

3*rdly*. That the Professors be for the present stationed at Toronto.

4*thly*. That the Synod undertake to provide a suitable maintenance for the Professors, and making arrangements for having the students suitably boarded.

5*thly*. That it be recommended as it hereby is, to congregations in which there are young men of decided and approved piety, who are giving themselves to the ministry, to assist and encourage these in their studies as their circumstances may require.

6*thly*. That the following members constitute a committee on the education of students, viz.: Mr. Rintoul (Convener,) Mr. Gale, Mr. Harris, Mr. Bayne, Mr. Cheyne, ministers, and Mr. Westland, Mr. McLellan, Mr. Webster, Mr. Dixon, elders; and that their duty be to provide for the accommodation of the professors and students, to superintend the raising of funds, and generally to watch over the institution: The ministers in the committee to constitute a sub-committee for assisting the professors with their counsel, in any matter regarding the education of the students.

Appointment of Professors.

Mr. King having been called on by the Moderator, to undertake the instruction of the Divinity students for the ensuing session, expressed his willingness to do so.

Mr. Esson was requested to accept the office of Professor of Science and Literature, when he craved time for consideration, before giving an answer; the same was allowed, and he was instructed to send his answer to the convener of the education committee, they being authorised in the event of Mr. Esson's declining the office, to make another appointment. The committee on education were also instructed to report on a suitable salary for the professor of science and literature, before the rising of the Synod. Also to report on the letter of Dr. Burns, read at the third session.

SESSION XI.

TORONTO, 15*th October*,
Tuesday, 9 *A. M.*

Reply to Letter of Dr. Burns.

The Education Committee reported a resolution for the adoption of the Synod, on the letter of Dr. Burns, and the same having been considered and amended, was agreed to as follows:—

The Synod feeling that in present circumstances they are unable to decide whether their contemplated Theological Institution shall be located at Toronto or Montreal, or what the precise and permanent arrangement of the institution shall be, yet rejoicing to hear that there is the prospect of Dr. Burns of Paisley's being settled at Toronto, as pastor of the church there; and being well assured of his eminent gifts and abilities, they do nominate and appoint the said Robert Burns, D.D., minister of Free St. George's, Paisley, to be the Professor of Theology, and to have the charge of training the young men for the holy ministry,—this appointment being of course subject to any contingency arising either from the Synod's resolving to separate at a future time the office of the professor from that of the pastor, or from such circumstances in the progress of the church and the condition of the public educational institutions of the country, as may affect the decision of the Synod in regard to the establishment of a permanent institution, or the locality in which it may be most advantageously placed.

And the Synod farther commission and empower Dr. Burns, as their Professor of Theology, to collect books, funds, and

philosophical apparatus, amongst the friends of the Presbyterian Church in Europe, so that every facility may be furnished for the education of candidates for the ministry; and they enjoin the Moderator to transmit an extract of this minute, with a suitable letter to Dr. Burns, pressing it upon him, to close with, and accept of this appointment; and they further request the Rev. J. Macnaughtan to take with him a duplicate of this minute, and use his influence with Dr. Burns, to repair to Canada at as early a day as his arrangements will admit of.

Students in Canada East.

The attention of the Synod was called to the importance of making arrangements for the education of students in Canada East, when after deliberation, the following resolution was adopted :— That the Synod, sympathising with the spiritual destitution of Canada East, and recognising the duty of exercising a watchful care over the young men that may be led through grace to devote themselves to the work of the ministry there; yet not contemplating at present the establishment of two distinct and separate theological Institutions in Canada, and considering that Toronto is in all respects the preferable locality for the temporary institution, though there may be some students in Canada East who, on account of their great distance from Toronto and other circumstances, could not avail themselves of the institution; therefore do authorise the Presbytery of Montreal to make the best arrangements they can, for training promising young men, residing within their bounds, in the studies usually regarded as preparatory to the study of theology, it being hereby declared that the students who shall follow the direction of said Presbytery, and evince, on examination, a due proficiency in their studies, shall be regarded as on the same footing with the students who shall have attended the institution which the Synod is now about to originate.

The Synod appointed the Moderator, Mr. Gale, Mr. Cheyne, and Mr. Mackintosh, a committee to meet with the Niagara Presbytery, and to carry out the recommendations in the Report on that Presbytery, adopted by the Synod at the fourth Session.

Report on Niagara Presbytery.

The Report referred to is as follows:—

The Committee beg leave to report, that after much friendly communing and inquiry as to the principles and procedure of the Presbytery, they are enabled to state that that body consists of seven ministers, having the charge of fifteen congregations; that they hold, in common with ourselves, the Westminster Confession of Faith as their standard; and, as a Presbytery, maintain

and uphold its doctrines in what is usually termed the Calvinistic sense, holding fast by the great cardinal doctrines of the divine sovereignty, the decree of election, and the imputation of the righteousness of Christ, as distinguished from the views which, on account of their extreme character, are usually styled Antinomian and Arminian; in all matters connected with the admission of members, the administration of discipline, and the ordination of Ministers, their practice is substantially the same with our own, and that of the Free Church of Scotland. They do not question the obligations of Civil Governments, as such, to honour Christ as the King of Kings, and the Governor amongst the nations; although on the propriety of the Church's accepting endowments from the State, in the present divided state of the Church, and its relationship to the world, they have great difficulties. In submitting this information, the committee earnestly recommend to the Synod, that measures should be adopted for immediate co-operation with this Presbytery in all matters of common interest relative to the conversion of souls; that copies of the Protest, and of the Resolutions on which the Protest was founded, should immediately be forwarded to the Presbytery; and *quoad ultra*, that a committee be appointed to attend their next meeting, with power to arrange such terms of union as may be agreeable to that Presbytery, to be submitted to the Synod at the next meeting, for their approval.

THOMAS ALEXANDER,
Clerk of Joint Com.

Treasurer to Synod Fund.

The Synod appointed James Shaw, Esq., merchant, Toronto, treasurer to the Synod Fund; and the clerk was instructed to furnish Mr. Shaw with a roll of the Synod, that he may apply to ministers or congregations who have not yet contributed to the Synod Fund, it being understood that the year commenced with the month of July.

Visitation of bounds by Presbyteries.

The Synod agreed to direct the attention of Presbyteries to the recommendation of the Commission issued at their meeting on the 8th day of August last, and contained in the *Record* No. 2, page 13, to the effect that Presbyteries should have their bounds visited without delay by suitable deputations, for expounding fully the reasons for our casting off connexion with the Established Church of Scotland, and assuming an independent position; and also for receiving the adherence of those who approve of our position, for forming new congregations where necessary, and recommending the support of the Sustentation Fund.

Answer to Address to Governor General.

The answer of his Excellency the Governor-General to the Address of the Synod, agreed on at the session of the 11th July, at Kingston, was read.

SESSION XII.

TORONTO, 15th OCTOBER,
Tuesday, 3 *P. M.*

Sustentation Fund.

The Synod called for the report of the Committee on the Sustentation Fund. The committee reported progress; whereupon, on motion made and seconded, the Synod resolved that the committee shall give in their report to the commission, and that the commission be authorised to adopt such a plan of a sustentation fund, in accordance with the general resolution passed at the sixth session of the present meeting, as to them may seem fit; and to publish and recommend the same to the support of congregations. The Synod farther resolved, that it be recommended to all ministers of this church to relinquish any engagements which they may have with their congregations for stipends, in so far as they may stand in the way of the common sustentation fund scheme coming into operation; and to recommend said scheme to their people.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures, reported drafts of a Formula, to be signed by Ministers, Elders, Deacons and Probationers of the Church, also of Questions to be put to these severally at their ordination. The same were considered and amended and unanimously adopted, and are as follows:

(*These were slightly amended by the Synod at Cobourg. See them as amended under date Session x., 10th June*, 1845.)

Bounds of Presbyteries.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures, reported a scheme for the division of Presbyteries according to territorial limits, and the same was sustained and adopted, and the Synod in terms thereof ordained as follows:

That the Presbytery of Hamilton and Toronto be divided into two Presbyteries. The Presbytery of Hamilton and that of Toronto.

That the Presbytery of Hamilton consist of the District of Gore, with the exception of the townships of Trafalgar, Nassagaweya and Esquesing, also of the Brock, London, Huron, Talbot and Western Disiricts.

Bounds of Presbyteries.

That the Presbytery of Toronto consist of the Home District, together with the townships of Nassagaweya, Esquesing and Trafalgar, and the Simcoe District.

That the Presbytery of Cobourg consist of the Newcastle and Colborne Districts.

That the Presbytery of Kingston consist of the Victoria, Prince Edward, Midland, Johnstown and Bathurst Districts.

And that the Presbytery of Montreal consist of the Eastern and Ottawa Districts, and of Canada East.

Mr. Daniel Clark, Minister of Indian Lands, Glengary, formerly of the Synod in connexion with the Church of Scotland, is received into the Synod, and his name added to the Roll of the Montreal Presbytery.

The Synod agreed to hold a Public Meeting in the Evening in Mr. Roaf's Church.

SESSION XIII.

TORONTO, 15*th October*,
Tuesday, 7, *P. M.*

The Synod met in Mr. Roaf's Church, and was constituted with prayer and praise.

Resolutions at Public Meeting.

The Moderator stated that it was the object of this meeting to lay before the members of the Church in Toronto some of the principal matters that had occupied the attention of the Synod during its first Session, in connection with a series of Resolutions that were to be submitted to the Synod. It was then moved by Mr. Henry—supported in an address by him—and being seconded, was unanimously agreed to:—

That the Synod, deeply impressed with a sense of their responsibilities as office-bearers in the Church of Christ, and solemnized by a sense of their own shortcomings in all duty, do now humbly and faithfully enjoin on all ministers and preachers under their charge to cultivate a high standard of personal piety, and to give themselves more unreservedly than ever to the great work of winning souls to Christ; and they farther enjoin Presbyteries, at their earliest meetings, to take the whole subject of the state of religion into their most serious consideration.

Resolutions at Public Meeting.

It was then moved by Mr. King, of the Free Church of Scotland—supported in an address by him—and being seconded, was unanimously agreed to:—

That the Synod, convinced that an effective Eldership, zealous for the Lord's glory, and active in carrying out the great end for which the office of the Elder has been constituted by the Head of the Church, is essential to the prosperity of the Church, entreat their brethren to ponder well the exhortations and advices tendered already by this Synod regarding the qualifications and duties of the Elder and the Deacon; believing that a well organized, pious, energetic and spiritually minded Session, assisted by a Deaconship of corresponding character, is a blessed instrument in God's hand for reviving his own work, and establishing the purity of his Church.

Mr. Bayne addressed the Synod and meeting in support of the following Resolution; and the same having been seconded, was unanimously agreed to:—

That the Synod, considering that the purity of the Church, as subordinate to its glorification, and the glory of God, is the very highest end of all gospel ordinances; and that her extension in the world depends mainly on her purity; and considering that, apart from all the labours of Church officers, the purity of the Church is to be promoted and prayed for by every individual member thereof: do now earnestly entreat and exhort all the members of this Church to strive after personal holiness, and the culture of brotherly affection towards each other; and to pray unceasingly for the fulfilment of the divine promises respecting a universal effusion of the Holy Spirit.

Mr. Macnaughtan, of the Free Church of Scotland, addressed the Synod and meeting in support of the following Resolution; and the same having been seconded, was unanimously agreed to:—

That this Synod, persuaded that their characteristic principles are essentially Scriptural, Protestant and Missionary, resolve, under God, to cast their great schemes for support on the piety and principle of the Christian people—relying on the grace of the Lord for any faith and benevolence that may be necessary to carry them out to a successful issue.

Mr. Rintoul then moved the following Resolution; and the same having been seconded, was unanimously agreed to:—

That the Synod, in view of the varied and refreshing

communications received from the Moderator of the Free Church of Scotland, and the Commission of the General Assembly and Colonial Committee of said Church; and especially of the visit of Mr. King and Mr. Macnaughtan, the deputation from that Church; and the experience had of the wise and faithful counsels—the instructive, edifying, and powerful addresses of these brethren; do now record their sense of the obligations under which they are laid to the Free Church of Scotland, and their hope that, in the fruit which may be reaped from the visit of the deputation, both the deputation themselves, and those who commissioned them, may have abundant cause for praise and thanksgiving to Him who has called and enabled them to witness so nobly for the truth. And in view of the travels and labours in which the deputation are engaged, and especially of the early return of Mr. Macnaughtan to his family and flock in his native land, the Synod desire to commend the deputation to the guidance and keeping of the Great Head of the Church.

Thanks to Free Church and Deputation.

SESSION XIV.

TORONTO, 16*th October*,
Wednesday, 9, *A. M.*

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee on the communication from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and the same having been produced and read, was sustained; and the Synod in conformity with its recommendations, resolved as follows:—

Communication from Synod in connexion with Church of Scotland.

First—That this Synod being desirous of preventing, as far as possible, all strife and unseemly litigation about church property, and of bringing about a fair and equitable adjustment of claims made on such property, whether it be possessed by congregations of this Synod, or those of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, appoint two committees to act along with the corresponding committees of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, in the hope that some scheme may be devised and arranged by which all disputes regarding church property may be settled on the principles of Christian equity. The committee for Canada West, to be Mr. William Rintoul,

Minister; John McMurrich, James Shaw, and Joseph C. Morrison, Esquires. That for Canada East, Mr. Henry Esson, Minister; and James Lesslie, John Redpath, and Isaac Buchanan, Esquires.

Secondly—That while the Synod hold fast by the testimony they have been privileged to give for the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ, as the sole and Supreme Head of the Church, and for the liberties and rights of his blood-bought people, and while they feel confident that the step taken by the brethren of this Synod, in the recent separation, was warranted and demanded alike by a regard to Christian principle and their own frequent, open, and well known avowals; and while firmly resolved, through grace, to avoid the responsibilities of a connexion with the Established Church of Scotland, as at present constituted, yet being anxious to promote the peace and unity of the Church of Christ; they declare their readiness to meet with any of the brethren of the Synod still in connexion with the Scottish Establishment, who may be willing to act out practically their own resolutions, and arrange with them such terms of union as may be honourable to principle, and conducive to the glory of the Redeemer: And the Synod, earnestly desirous of being actuated by no hostility but a hostility to error, declare that they cannot, in the meantime, desist from any ministerial services whatever, which they may deem necessary to the maintaining of the truth for which they are called to witness, or to the well-being and purity of the Presbyterian Church, which they are solemnly engaged to uphold; and appoint Mr. Alexander Gale (convener), Mr. Henry Esson, Mr. William Rintoul, Mr. Mark Y. Stark, Mr. John Bayne, Ministers; and Mr. James Webster, Mr. J. F. Westland, Mr. James Gibb, and Mr. James Lesslie, Elders, a committee to conduct any negotiations toward a re-union with the brethren of the Synod in connexion with the Church of Scotland;—it being understood that the negotiations on their part must be in harmony with this resolution.

Deputation to Secession Synod.

The Synod appointed a Deputation to attend the next ordinary meeting of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the United Secession Church of Scotland, and tender to that body the Christian greetings of the Synod.

The correspondence with other churches is referred to the Commission.

Address to Governor General.

Mr. Gale reported the draft of an address to his Excellency the Governor-General, on the subject of the allowances received by several ministers of the Church when they were members of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with

the Church of Scotland, and the same was sustained and adopted, to be engrossed, signed by the Moderator in name of the Synod, and transmitted. The tenor whereof follows:

The Memorial of the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in Synod assembled—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:

That your memorialists at their first meeting in Kingston, in July last, informed your Excellency of the painful but imperative necessity under which they felt themselves to be placed, of withdrawing from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Established Church of Scotland,—and do now respectfully transmit to your Excellency an authentic copy of the reasons of dissent and protest, lodged by them with the said Synod at the period of their separation from that body. That your memorialists respectfully solicit your Excellency's attention to this document, in order that the position they now occupy may be distinctly understood, that your Excellency having the whole merits of the case before you, may be able to decide whether or not in this position,—maintaining as they do unchanged their standards of doctrine, discipline, government and worship,—her Majesty's Government will be disposed to continue those allowances from Government enjoyed by some of their number, and secured to them personally, they believe, by a late Imperial statute, and which, indeed, some of them enjoyed before they were admitted into the Synod of the Presbyterian Church in connexion with the Church of Scotland.

May it therefore please your Excellency to take the premises into consideration, together with the accompanying Reasons of Dissent and Protest, and inform your memorialists as to the decision to which your Excellency may come in regard to the allowances above referred to, and your memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray, &c. &c.

In name and by appointment of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, at Toronto, this 16th day of October, 1844.

MARK Y. STARK,
Moderator.

Commission. A Commission appointed to watch over the general interests of

the Church, and attend to all matters specially referred to them. The stated meetings to be at—

Toronto, - - - - - - - - -	16th October, 1844.
Hamilton, - - - - - - - - -	15th January, 1845.
Toronto, - - - - - - - - -	14th May, 1845.
Cobourg, - - - - - - - - -	3rd June, 1845.

A general Home Mission Committee appointed.

Instructions to Home Mission Committee.

And it was agreed that the Committee be instructed to prepare a scheme of regulations for the guidance of Presbyteries, and report the same to the Commission for their sanction. It was also agreed that while it is left to Presbyteries to direct missionaries within their own bounds, and to provide for their maintenance, the committee be empowered to determine to what Presbyteries missionaries shall be sent, and that Presbyteries be instructed to make reports of the missions within their bounds to the Convener of the Committee, on or before the 1st day of May next.

Resolutions respecting Seminary.

A report from the Committee on the Education of Students for the ministry was read, and the same was sustained and adopted, and in terms thereof the Synod resolved—*First*. That the salary of the Professor of Literature and Science shall for the present be £200, per annum, exclusive of house rent. *Secondly*—That the Seminary be opened, if practicable, for the reception of students, on the fifth day of November next. *Thirdly*—That the Committee be instructed to examine all such students as may apply for admission to the Seminary, and assign those whom they admit their place in the curriculum of study *Fourthly*—That the Committee shall report to the Synod, at the next ordinary meeting, the plan of a permanent Theological College. *Fifthly*—That the Committee be authorised to issue suggestions to Presbyteries as to the acquirements which they should seek in students before recommending them for admission to the Seminary: and to propose, if they shall see fit, an address on the duty of young men of competent gifts and piety to consecrate themselves to the ministry of the Gospel.

Synod Fund.

The report of the Committee on the Synod Fund was received and sustained, and the Treasurer was authorised to pay accounts against it, on the attestation of the Clerk.

Thanks for use of churches, &c.

On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously resolved, that the thanks of the Synod be tendered to the Ministers and Trustees of the Secession Church and of the Congregational

Church respectively, for the comfortable accommodation enjoyed by the Synod for their meetings in these churches; also that the Synod do record their grateful sense of the cheerful hospitality manifested to the members, by many Christian families in Toronto, during the recent sessions of Synod:—and that this resolution be published in the *Record*.

Next meeting.

The Synod, after deliberation, agreed that the next ordinary meeting shall be held at Cobourg, on the first Wednesday of June next, and that in respect that the Moderator preached at the opening of the present meeting, Mr. Esson be requested to preach at the opening of the next meeting on the day aforesaid, and at the hour of 7, P. M. Mr. Esson consented to this request.

Synod closed.

The Moderator having stated that from the solemn addresses made last evening, and the urgency there was for the closing of the Synod, he felt that he was not called upon to make a closing address. A Psalm was sung, Prayer offered up, and the Synod was dismissed with the apostolical blessing.

WILLIAM RINTOUL, A. M.,
SYNOD CLERK.

MINUTES OF THE SYNOD AT COBOURG.

Session 1.

At Cobourg, the fourth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five years, which day the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada met.

Sermon by Mr. Bonar.

After praise and prayer, a sermon was preached by Mr. John Bonar, of Larbert, a Deputy from the Free Church of Scotland, from these words—"Men that had understanding of the times to know what Israel ought to do," 1 *Chron.* xii. 32. (The Commission having requested Mr. Bonar to preach instead of Mr Esson, on account of Mr. Esson being called on by the College Committee to deliver an Inaugural Address before the Synod to-morrow evening.)

After sermon, the Synod was constituted with prayer by Mr. Mark Y. Stark, Moderator.

The Roll of the Synod having been made up and called, the names of the members present were marked.

(*The Roll is as follows. The asterisk prefixed to the name denotes that the member was in attendance at this or some of the subsequent Sessions*):—

Roll.

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*Henry Esson	James Lesslie	*St. Gabriel St., Montreal.*
John Clugston		*Quebec.*
Daniel Clark		*Indian Lands, Glengary.*
David Black	John Hettrick	*St. Therese.*
*Thomas Henry	John Christie	*La Chute.*
*John Bonar, *Off. Min.*	*John Redpath	*Coté St. Church, Montreal.*

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
Daniel W. Eastman,		*Grimsby.*
*Alexander Gale	*W. McMillan	*Hamilton.*
*M. Y. Stark	*William Kyle	*Dundas and Ancaster.*
William Macalister		*Port Sarnia.*
*George Cheyne	John Colville	*Saltfleet.*
*Robert Lindsay	Thomas Paton	*Ayr.*
Duncan McMillan	Donald Frazer	*Williams.*
Donald McKenzie	John Mathieson	*Zorra.*

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—CONTINUED.

Roll.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*John Bayne	Allan Henderson	*Galt.*
*Angus Mackintosh	Peter Drummond	*Thorold.*
*George Smellie	Francis Anderson	*Fergus.*
Daniel Allan	George Hyde	*Stratford.*
William Meldrum	Peter McNaughton	*Puslinch.*
Robert Peden	James Noble	*Amherstburgh.*
William Graham		*Tuckersmith.*
	Gilbert Bastedo	*Nelson.*
	George Henry	*Aldboro'.*
	George Davidson	*Woolwich.*
	—— Armstrong	*Guelph.*

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*Robert Burns, D. D.	*J. F. Westland	*Toronto.*
*William Rintoul	*John Embleton	*Streetsville.*
James Harris		*York Township.*

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*James Douglass	*William Stewart	*Cavan, South.*
*J. M. Roger	Robert Thomson	*Peterbo'o' and Cavan.*
*Thomas Alexander	*Andrew Jeffrey	*Cobourg.*
*William Reid	*Robert Johnston	*Grafton and Colborne.*
	Duncan Drummond	*Otonabee.*

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*William Smart	George McNish	*Brockville.*
*Robert Boyd	Robert Campbell	*Prescott.*
*Henry Gordon	*Alexander Auchinvole	*Gananoque.*
*James Rogers	*Jonathan Green	*Demorestville.*
Thomas Wightman		*Camden.*
		Picton.
		Belleville.

Moderator chosen. The Moderator moved that Dr. Burns be chosen to succeed him in office. Mr. Bayne seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to, and Dr. Burns took the Chair.

Thanks for sermon. On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously agreed to thank Mr. Bonar for the able, faithful, and impressive discourse delivered by him to the Synod: and thanks were accordingly tendered to Mr. Bonar by the Moderator.

The Synod, through the Moderator, invited Mr. Bonar to sit with the Synod during its Sessions in Cobourg.

A Committee for Bills and Overtures was appointed.

The Synod agreed to allow Presbyteries to meet for any competent business in Cobourg during the present Sessions.

The Synod adjourned at 11 o'clock, to meet to-morrow at 10, A. M.

SESSION II.

Cobourg, 5th June, Thursday, 10, A. M.

The Synod met, and was constituted with prayer.

Times of meeting. The Synod resolved, in terms of a recommendation by the Commission, that the ordinary sessions during the present meeting shall be from 10, A. M., until 3, P. M., and from half-past 6 until 10 in the evening—that for at least the first two hours of the former session of each day, the Synod shall be alone, excepting that Students, Licentiates, and Missionaries may be admitted.

Committees for revising Presbytery Records were appointed.

Mr. Arnot, Deputy from Free Church. Mr. William Arnot, of Free St. Peter's Church, Glasgow, was introduced to the Synod, and produced an Extract from a Minute of the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland, bearing date at Edinburgh, the 28th day of April, 1845, commissioning and authorising him to visit Canada, and *inter alia* attend the Synod, and generally to co-operate with the Church here in advancing the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom.

Mr. Arnot's commission was cordially received, and the Moderator expressed to him the welcome of the Synod, and invited him to take a seat amongst the brethren, which he accordingly did.

Mr. Kennedy, an Elder from Bytown, was admitted to sit with the Synod.

Sustentation Scheme. The Synod had a conference on the Sustentation Fund Scheme. Reports on the scheme were read from the Presbyteries of Kingston, Cobourg, and Hamilton.

A Report from the Sustentation Board, signed Isaac Buchanan, Chairman, James Walker, Secretary, was read.

There was also read a series of Resolutions on the scheme passed at a meeting of the congregation of Knox's Church, Toronto, on the 13th Jannary last.

Mr. Bonar addressed the Synod, approving generally of the scheme.

Devotional exercises. The hour for public business having come, the Synod proceeded to engage in devotional exercises. Mr. Alexander, on the call of the Moderator, gave out a portion of a Psalm, which was sung, and read the sixtieth chapter of Isaiah. Mr. Arnot engaged in Prayer. The Minutes of the Session of last evening were read.

Minutes read. The whole Minutes of the meeting of Synod in Toronto, in October last, were read.

Records. A Committee was appointed to revise the Records of the Synod and the Commission: also a Committee on the Synod Fund.

Niagara Presbytery. The Synod called for the report of the Committee appointed at the meeting in October for meeting with the Presbytery of Niagara: the same was submitted by Mr. Stark, the Convener, and read. The Synod approved of the Report, and with a view to removing the hinderances that are at present in the way of a union with that body, recommend that a brotherly intercourse should be kept up with the ministers thereof by the ministers of this Church: and that the Presbytery of Hamilton, especially, correspond with said Presbytery, as occasion may offer.

Communication respecting Government allowances. Mr. Stark, former Moderator, reported to the Synod that he had received a communication from the Provincial Secretary's Office, in reply to the memorial from this Synod, on the subject of the Government allowances enjoyed by some of the members up to the time of the formation of the Synod—which communication set forth that, according to the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown, said allowances could not be continued on account of the new position in which the Synod stand.

Grants from Free Church. Mr. Stark also read a letter from Mr. James Balfour, Secretary to the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland, intimating that that Committee had made a grant to this Church

for aiding in the support of missionaries to the amount of £200, sterling, besides £150, sterling, for the Library of the Seminary. Mr. Stark stated at the same time that he had written a letter of thanks to the Colonial Committee.

The Synod heard with pleasure and gratitude the testimony of the liberality of the Free Church, and approved of the Moderator's procedure in writing a letter of thanks to the Committee.

The Synod agreed to give instructions for the distribution of this grant amongst the several Presbyteries of the Church at a subsequent meeting.

Application for Missionaries.

The Synod, on the Report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures, took up an Overture respecting an application to the Free Church of Scotland, for a supply of labourers in the peculiar crisis of this Church, and the same having been fully discussed was adopted, and the Synod in terms thereof agreed that the Moderator should write to the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland, and urge them in the strongest manner to send forth to the aid of this Church, Missionaries of devoted piety and suitable gifts, who may labour permanently or for a limited time amongst us.

The Synod also agreed that the Moderator should write in similar terms to the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.

Overture for Letter against American Slavery.

The Synod took up an Overture from the Presbytery of Toronto, recommending the Synod to open up a correspondence with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, and to tender to them a testimony against American Slavery, and the encouragement understood to be given to it by the American Presbyterian Church.

The Overture was approved of, and the Synod requested the Moderator to draft a series of Resolutions on the subject, and submit them to the Synod.

Report on Theological Institution.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee on the Theological Institution, when the same was given in and read. The Synod unanimously sustained and approved of the Report, and resolved in terms of its recommendations respecting the Professors; that the appointment of Dr. Burns, as Professor of Divinity, be declared to be final, and that the appointment of Mr. Henry Esson, as Professor of Literature and Philosophy, be confirmed.

College Committee.

The Synod appointed the following Committee, to be known by the name of the College Committee, as recommended in the

Report, with authority to carry into effect the various recommendations of the Report, specially those which respect additional Professors and the course of study, viz.: Mr. William Rintoul, Convener; Mr. Alexander Gale, Mr. James Harris, Mr. Mark Y. Stark, Mr. John Bayne, Mr. George Cheyne, Mr. Thomas Alexander, Ministers; and Mr. James Paterson, Mr. James F. Westland, Mr. Andrew Jeffrey, and Mr. John Redpath, Elders. The Professors and Treasurer to be members *ex officiis*.

Thanks to Committee.

On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously agreed that the thanks of the Synod be tendered to the Committee of last year for the great pains they had bestowed in superintending the Seminary during its first Session.

The thanks of the Synod were accordingly tendered to the Committee, through the Moderator, and were suitably acknowledged by Mr. Rintoul, Convener.

The Synod agreed to hear this evening the Inaugural Addresses from Dr. Burns and Mr. Esson, prepared by them in accordance with a recommendation of the College Committee.

The Synod, to allow Presbyteries to meet at half-past 6 o'clock, agreed to postpone the Evening Session until half-past 7 o'clock.

The Synod was closed at 5 o'clock, P. M., with prayer.

SESSION III.

Cobourg, *5th June*,
Thursday, 7½, *P. M.*

Inaugural addresses.

The Synod having met, a portion of the 46th Psalm was sung. Prayer was offered up by Mr. Thomas Henry. A portion of the 118th Psalm was also sung, when Mr. Professor Esson delivered an address on the course of Preparatory Study for the Ministry, and the nature of the Educational Institutions required by this Church in her present circumstances,—a short portion of the 119th Psalm was sung. Mr. Stark having taken the Chair, Dr. Burns delivered an address on the different branches of Theology, and the most efficient modes of prosecuting the study of these. A part of the 110th Psalm was then sung. Mr. Rogers, on the call of the Chair, engaged in prayer.

Thanks for the same.

On motion made and agreed to, the cordial thanks of the Synod were tendered to Mr. Esson and Dr. Burns, for their interesting and valuable addresses.

After a short address from Mr. Bonar, on the importance of personal piety in Students for the Ministry, the Synod was closed with prayer at 11, P. M.

SESSION IV.

COBOURG, *6th June,*
Friday, 10, *A. M.*

The Synod met and was constituted with prayer.

Model Trust Deed. The Synod had transmitted to them an Overture for the preparation of a Model Trust Deed for the guidance of congregations in taking conveyance of real property for ecclesiastical purposes, and holding the same. The Synod adopted the Overture, and appointed Mr. Bayne, Mr. Boyd, Mr. Bonar, Ministers; and Mr. Redpath, and Mr. Embleton, Elders, a Committee to draw up a statement of principles which should be embodied in Trust Deeds, and to prepare a draft of a Model Deed that may be recommended to congregations;—the Committee to report on Tuesday morning.

Rolls of Presbyteries. The Synod, in conformity with the recommendations of an overture for uniformity in keeping the Rolls of Presbyteries, agreed that the names of ministers should stand on the Rolls of their several Presbyteries in the order of the dates of their ordination.

Conference on Sustentation Fund. The Synod had a conference on the Sustentation Fund Scheme, when the Deputies from Scotland were heard at full length on the operations of the Sustentation Scheme in Scotland. The conference was adjourned until to-morrow at 9 A. M.

Letter from Mr. Clugston. A letter from Mr. Clugston, of Quebec, was read, stating that the duties devolved on him by the recent awful conflagration in that city, prevented him from being present at this meeting. Mr. Clugston stated that his congregation were to have a Prayer Meeting in behalf of the Synod.

The Synod made arrangements for supplies of preaching at various places around Cobourg on the ensuing Sabbath.

American Slavery. The Moderator vacated the Chair, which was taken by Mr. Stark, and addressed the Synod at great length on the subject of American Slavery, and read a series of Resolutions on the subject, which were laid on the table. Several members spoke on the subject, when it was agreed to resume the discussion, at the

opening of the Evening Session, and to continue it until 8 o'clock. The addresses on Missions to commence at that hour.

SESSION V.

COBOURG, *6th June,*
Friday, 6½, *P. M.*

American Slavery. The Synod resumed the discussion on the Resolutions on Slavery. Various members spoke on the subject. Dr. Burns was also again heard, when it was moved by Mr. Rintoul, seconded by Mr. Cheyne, and unanimously agreed to, that the Resolutions of Dr. Burns be received, and referred to a committee for revision—the committee also to draft a suitable letter to accompany said Resolutions to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States.

The committee to be the Moderator, Mr. Stark, Mr. Rogers, Mr Bayne, Mr. Bonar, Mr. Gordon, Ministers; and Mr. Redpath and Mr. McMillan, Elders—to report on Tuesday morning.

Addresses. The Synod, at 8 o'clock, engaged in prayer, singing a part of the 102nd Psalm. Mr. Douglass, on the call of the Moderator, engaged in prayer. Mr. Gale then read a report from the Home Mission Committee. Mr. Redpath gave copious details respecting the operations of a Missionary Committee in the bounds of the Presbytery of Montreal. Mr. Redpath, as commissioned by the French Canadian Missionary Society, gave an account of the operations of that Society. Mr. Leishman and Mr. Steele, missionaries, gave an account of their labours. Mr. Arnot also addressed the Synod at considerable length on the subject of his mission to this country.

Mission report. It was moved by Mr. Alexander, seconded by Mr. Reid, and unanimously agreed to, that the Mission Report be received, and that Mr. Gale be requested to revise the same, and publish the whole, or an abstract of it, in the *Record*, as he may see fit; also, that the thanks of the Synod be tendered through the Moderator to Mr. Gale, for the attention and labour bestowed by him on the business of this committee. The Moderator accordingly communicated the thanks of the Synod to Mr. Gale.

Thanks to Deputies. On motion made by Mr. Esson, and seconded by Mr. Rintoul, it was unanimously agreed that thanks be tendered to Messrs. Bonar and Arnot, Deputies from the Free Church of Scotland, for the refreshing addresses of these brethren, and the profitable

intercourse enjoyed with them. The Moderator accordingly tendered the thanks of the Synod to the Deputation.

Gratitude for Deputations from Free Church.

It was resolved that the Synod do henceforth engage, in dependance on Divine strength, as an expression of gratitude to the Free Church of Scotland, for the Deputations they have, from time to time, sent to this country, to take a more hearty interest in the Foreign Missionary undertakings of the Free Church of Scotland, and to recommend these to the stated and liberal contributions of all the congregations of the Synod.

Mr. Bonar engaged in prayer, and the Synod was closed with the apostolical blessing.

SESSION VI.

Cobourg, *7th June, Saturday*, 10 *A. M.*

The Synod met and was constituted with prayer.

Reports on Act respecting admission of Ministers.

The Synod called for Reports of Presbyteries on the Interim Act respecting the admission of Ministers from other Churches, when there were produced and read Reports on said act from the Presbyteries of Cobourg and of Hamilton. The Act was read over, and the emendations suggested by the Presbytery of Hamilton were considered and part of them adopted, as were also the emendations suggested by different members, when the following committee were appointed to embody the whole in one draft, and submit the same to the Synod, viz., the Moderator, Mr. Gale, Mr. Stark, Mr. Bayne, Ministers, and Mr. Kennedy, Elder.

Overtures on state of religion, &c.

The committee of Bills and Overtures reported the following Overtures: *First*,—for inquiring into the state of Religion in our congregations. *Second*,—for Presbyterial Visitations. *Third*,—for a Pastoral Letter from the Synod to the Members of the Church.

The Synod referred these to the Moderator, Mr. Bonar, Mr. Rintoul, Mr. Gordon, Ministers, and Mr. Redpath and Mr. Westland, Elders, with instructions to consider them, and prepare one or more measures for the adoption of the Synod.

Mr. Geggie.

The Synod, on the report of the committee of Bills and Overtures, took up the case of Mr. Geggie, lately of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, an applicant for admission into this Church, and referred the same to the following committee, with instructions to examine Mr. Geggie as they may see fit, and report: the Moderator, Mr.

Rintoul (Convener), Mr. Gordon, Mr. Henry, Mr. Bayne, Mr. Esson, Mr. Mackintosh, Mr. Reid, Ministers, and Mr. Westland and Mr. Jeffrey, Elders.

Messrs. Wardrope and Mair.

An application from the Congregation at Bytown, in behalf of Mr. Wardrope, Student in Divinity and Catechist; and an application in behalf of Mr. Mair, of Nottawasaga, to have him recognised as a Catechist, were referred to the same committee.

Report of Committee on re-union.

The Synod called for the Report of the committee appointed at last meeting to meet with a committee of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and treat on re-union with said Synod. Mr. Gale reported that the committee had met with the Rev. Robert McGill and the Hon. Justice McLean, the correspondent committee of the Synod in connexion with the Established Church of Scotland, and had lengthened conference with them—that they had found these gentlemen disposed to lay great stress on an Act passed by their Synod declaring the spiritual independence of their church, but entirely indisposed to entertain any proposal for dissolving the connexion between their Synod and the Scottish Establishment, or altering the designation of the Synod, and had thereupon broken off the conference.

Report of Committee on disputes about Church Property.

The Synod called for the Reports of the committees appointed at last meeting, for treating with correspondent committees of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, about disputed Church Property. No Report was made by the committee for Canada East. Mr. Rintoul, in behalf of the committee for Canada West, reported that they had met by themselves, and agreed on what they deemed equitable terms for settling disputes about Church Property; and had afterwards met with the Convener and several members of the committee of the other Synod, and submitted to them what they had prepared as the basis of an equitable adjustment of disputes about Church Property: that this was declined by that committee, on the ground that the terms of their appointment by their Synod did not allow of their entering into any engagements which would compromise the legal rights of parties adhering to the Synod connected with the Church of Scotland.

Committee to meet with Secession Synod.

The Synod called for the Report of the committee appointed to wait on the Missionary Synod of the United Secession Church in Canada. Mr. Gale reported that that Synod had not yet met, but was to meet next week. The Synod continued the appointment

of the committee, with a change of some of the members willing them, besides tendering to that Synod the Christian greetings of this Synod, to express to them the deep conviction entertained by this Synod of the importance and practicableness of Union, on a Scriptural basis, amongst all the sound Presbyterian Churches in Canada: and the Synod authorise the committee to confer on this subject with any correspondent committee of the Synod of the United Secession Church of Canada; the committee to be the Moderator, Mr. Gale (Convener), Mr. Bayne, Mr. Stark, Ministers, and Mr. McMillan and Mr. Kyle, Elders.

Printing of Minutes.

On motion made and seconded, the Synod agreed that a full abstract of the Minutes of the present Sessions of Synod shall be printed, as well also as an abstract of the Minutes of the Sessions at Kingston and Toronto respectively,—the whole to be prefaced by a historical statement of the causes and attendant circumstances of the separation from the Synod that is connected with the Scottish Establishment. The Synod appointed the following committee for preparing this publication, viz., the Moderator and Clerk, Mr. Gale, Mr. Esson, Mr. Stark, Ministers, and Messrs. Westland and Embleton, Elders; the publication to be charged at a small price to cover expenses.

The Synod was closed at 10 o'clock, P. M., with prayer.

SESSION VII.

COBOURG, *9th June,*
Monday, 12 *Noon.*

The Synod met and was constituted with prayer.

The Minutes of the Session of yesterday were read

Division of grant from Free Church.

The Synod agreed that the Home Mission Committee be authorised to divide the donation from the Colonial Committee, of £200 sterling, amongst the Presbyteries, for their several Mission Funds, in such proportion as they may deem fit.

Direction of services of Deputies.

The Synod agreed that a respectful application should be made to the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland, to have those Deputies, whom they may from time to time send to this Church, without any special destination as to the places of their labours, placed in communication with the Convener of the Home Mission Committee, that the committee may direct their labours to the places where these will be most required.

Records attested.

The Synod and Commission Records were, in accordance with the recommendation of the Revising Committee, attested by the Moderator as carefully kept.

Act respecting admission of of Ministers.

The committee for preparing a Draft of the Act for the Admission of Ministers from other Churches, according to the emendations on the same adopted by the Synod, submitted a Draft, which was considered and amended, and finally passed, and the same is as follows:

[*This Act having been farther amended in* 1846, *will be found in Minutes of that year, Hamilton, Session XVI, June* 10*th.*]

Mr. Wardrope to be licensed.

The Synod called for the Report of the committee on the case of Mr. Thomas Wardrope, Student, when the same was read and sustained, and the Synod, in respect of the highly favourable testimony borne in said Report, to the varied gifts and qualifications of Mr. Wardrope, agreed that the Presbytery of Kingston should be allowed to take him on trials for license, with instructions to said Presbytery to expedite these trials, as far as is consistent with fidelity in this matter.

Overture respecting Calls.

The Synod had transmitted, through the committee of Bills and Overtures, an overture for an enactment on the mode of conducting Calls. It was agreed to refer the matter to the Commission, with instructions to them to prepare the Draft of an Act on the subject.

Communication from Synod of New Brunswick.

The Clerk laid on the table a printed account of the formation of the Synod of New Brunswick, adhering to the Standards of the Westminster Confession, with a report of their proceedings, which had been transmitted by the Clerk of Synod.

The Synod agreed that the Clerk should acknowledge the same, and send in return a copy of the Minutes of this Synod, so soon as the same shall be published. Also, that a copy of said Minutes should be sent to the Clerks of the Supreme Courts of other churches with whom the Synod maintain an intercourse.

Application of Mr. W. G. Johnstone.

The Synod took up a reference from the Commission, respecting the case of Mr. W. G. Johnstone, a minister recently from the Presbytery of Ohio, and now an applicant, through the Presbytery of Hamilton, for admission into this Church. An extract from the proceedings of the Commission, of date 4th June of the present year, was read. The Synod, after deliberation, resolved that the Presbytery of Hamilton be instructed to hear Mr. Johnstone preach, with a view of still farther testing his ministerial gifts, and that they be recommended to make inquiry respecting his ministerial efficiency in any portion of the Lord's vineyard in which he has heretofore laboured.

In accordance with the reports of the Revising Committees, the Records of the Presbytery of Cobourg and Hamilton were duly attested.

Respecting Catechists.

The Synod had transmitted an overture respecting Catechists, and in conformity with its recommendations the Synod, after deliberation, agreed that the Home Mission Committee be authorised to inquire after men of God, with suitable gifts and qualifications, for the office of Catechist—with instructions to use all diligence and faithfulness in testing persons who may be placed in this office, either through the examination of candidates by the committee themselves, or examinations made by Presbyteries, and duly reported to the committee—and the Synod also agreed that the Home Mission Committee should be authorised to determine the stations in which Catechists should labour, or correspond with Presbyteries in regard to their stations.

The Synod had conference on the Sustentation Fund.

The Synod engaged in devotional exercises. A portion of the 102nd Psalm was sung. Mr. James Rogers read the 35th chapter of Isaiah, and prayed.

Sustentation Fund.

The Synod proceeded to take up the Sustentation Fund Scheme. Mr. Bayne read a series of Resolutions on the subject, which was laid on the table. Mr. Bayne and several members addressed the Synod on the subject.

The Synod agreed to resume the subject to-morrow.

Evening Meeting.

The Synod agreed that the Evening Session of this day be devoted to addresses on the principles of the Free Church of Scotland as applicable to this Church.

At half-past 5 o'clock, P. M., the Synod was closed with prayer.

SESSION VIII.

Cobourg, *9th June,*
Monday, 7 *P. M.*

The Synod met, and was constituted in presence of a large congregation. The 126th Psalm was sung. Mr. Rintoul, on the call of the Moderator, engaged in prayer.

The Moderator stated to the Synod the object of the present meeting.

Addresses.

Mr. Gale gave a historical account of the circumstances which led to the separation of this Synod from the Synod in connexion with the Scottish Establishment.

Mr. Bonar addressed the Synod and congregation on the disruption of the Church of Scotland, and the application of the principles of the Free Church to the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

Mr. Bayne and other brethren addressed the meeting.

The Moderator engaged in prayer. At twenty minutes after 10, the Synod closed with the apostolical blessing.

SESSION IX.

Cobourg, *10th June,*
Tuesday, 10 *A. M.*

The Synod met, and was constituted with prayer.

The Minutes of the Sessions of yesterday were read and amended.

Supply for Kingston.

The Presbytery of Kingston having requested aid in supplying ordinances to the vacant congregation at Kingston, the Synod agreed that the Convener of the Home Mission Committee, together with the Moderator of the Presbytery of Kingston, be authorised to provide a supply from any part of the Church, until the ordinary meeting of the Commission in autumn.

Mr. Hamilton.

Mr. Bonar read an extract from a letter of Mr. Hamilton, who has been acting as Missionary within the bounds of the Presbytery of Kingston, soliciting appointments to preach in Canada West. The Synod agreed to refer Mr. Hamilton's application to the Home Mission Committee, with instructions to them to communicate with the Presbytery of Kingston before giving him any appointments. Mr. Bonar was requested to communicate this resolution to Mr. Hamilton.

Mr. Lochead.

The Synod took up a reference from the Presbytery of Kingston respecting Mr. Lochead, an applicant for admission to the ministry in this Church, when it was agreed to refer it to the Committee on Mr. Geggie's application.

Resolutions on American Slavery.

The Committee on the Resolutions on American Slavery reported a revised draft, and also a draft of a letter to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, and the same having been read and amended were adopted, and the Moderator and Clerk were authorised to have them engrossed, and to sign

and transmit them without delay—the tenor of the resolutions is as follows:

1. That there are at the present time upwards of three millions of human beings, in the United States of America, who are held in bondage by their fellow creatures; are bought and sold as any article of property; and are in all essential respects as much the goods and chattels of their owners, as are their houses and lands.

2. That the proprietors of these slaves do claim the right of selling by public auction or otherwise, husbands apart from their wives, wives apart from their husbands, and children apart from their parents, and that such separations do in fact often take place, and "the rearing of slaves" for the market is well known to be a regular and lucrative trade.

3. That the existence of slavery in America, as in former times in the West Indies, is and always has been attended with injustice and cruelty on the part of proprietors,—evils which no special cases of kind treatment on the part of individuals can neutralise or excuse.

4. That in some of the Southern or slaveholding States there are laws prohibiting the teaching of slaves to read the Word of God, or to attend on religious instruction except in particular cases; and those laws are fenced round by severe penalties; such laws and penalties being in direct opposition to God's Word and the rights of conscience.

5. That in point of fact, gross licentiousness and great immoralities are the melancholy results of slavery, and that while these affect deeply the character of proprietors and their families, the slaves have not the means of protection from lawless lust.

6. That the Church of Christ ought never to be found in a position to prevent her from protesting against slavery and its evils, and adopting such measures as principle and duty demand for their removal.

7. That many of the churches of America, and particularly the Presbyterian, have manifested a sinful apathy in regard to these evils; and that at Cincinnati, on the 21st of May last, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (Old School) came by a majority of 164 to 12, to the resolution that it was not their duty to take action in the matter at all; and that under the two-fold plea "*that the churches of America were originally formed on the assumption that slaveholding is no bar to Christian communion;*" and that the tendency of the discussion of such petitions is "to

separate the Northern from the Southern portion of the church, a result," say they, "which every *good citizen* must deplore."

8. That this Synod shall transmit a copy of these resolutions to the Moderator of said Assembly, with a respectful but firm and and affectionate remonstrance.

The Synod sisted business to engage in devotional exercises. A part of the 87th Psalm was sung. Mr. Cheyne read the 12th chapter of Romans, and engaged in prayer.

Sustentation Fund.

The Synod proceeded to take up the Sustentation Fund Scheme. The resolutions of Mr. Bayne were again read. Various members addressed the house. Mr. Redpath moved a series of resolutions, and Mr. Jeffrey seconded the same. The Synod considering that there was no substantial difference between these and those of Mr. Bayne, and considering also that entire unanimity in a matter of such interest, was highly desirable, referred both series to the following committee, viz., Mr. Bayne, Mr. Bonar, Ministers, and Mr. Redpath and Mr. Jeffrey, Elders, with instructions to them to prepare one series out of the two, for the eventual adoption of the Synod.

Conflagration in Quebec.

The Synod had their attention directed to the awful conflagration which God in his Providence recently permitted to occur in the city of Quebec, through which a vast amount of property has been consumed, many lives have been lost, and multitudes of our fellow-subjects rendered houseless and destitute: When it was unanimously resolved to recommend to all congregations of this Church to make collections in behalf of the surviving sufferers; such collections to be made on Sabbath, the 29th June, or earliest convenient Sabbath thereafter; and Ministers to improve the dispensation of Divine Providence, and call forth the liberality of the people in appropriate discourses. The collections, as soon as made, to be remitted to Alexander Simpson, Esquire, Quebec.

Association of Evangelical denominations.

Mr. Esson having reported—that, as the result of the conference which was held at last meeting of Synod, by a Committee of Synod, with Ministers of various Evangelical denominations of the City of Toronto—an Association has been formed for delivering Lectures in that city, in opposition to prevailing errors, and that an extended series of Lectures had been delivered by different ministers with good effect.

The Synod agreed to accord their approbation of such friendly fellowship and communion, as being quite compatible with varieties of ecclesiastical management, and in no respect inimical to the independence of churches, while it is highly favourable to

the advancement of the Saviour's kingdom: and farther, to express their hope that such communion as that implied in the measures described by Mr. Esson, will, by the blessing of God, issue in a still closer relationship, especially in churches whose doctrine, worship, and discipline are essentially the same.

Report on *Record*.

The Synod took up the report on the *Record*, when the same was approved of, and the Synod agreed to remit the accounts to the Treasurer of the Synod Fund, to be examined by him, with authority to him to discharge such balance as may at the end of the year be unprovided for by the proceeds of the publication: and the Synod appointed Dr. Burns, and Messrs. Gale, Stark, and Bayne, Ministers; with Messrs. Webster, Kyle, and Henderson, Elders,—a committee to conduct the *Record* during the ensuing year, with power to enlarge its size, and publish it more frequently, as they may deem expedient, for extending its efficiency and usefulness.

Synod Fund, and Clerk's salary.

The Synod called for the report of the committee on the Synod Fund, and the same was read and sustained; and the Synod, in accordance with the recommendation thereof, agreed that the salary of the Synod Clerk shall be £30 per annum.

Model Trust Deed.

The Synod called for the report of the committee on the preparation of a Model Trust Deed, and the same was given in and sustained; and the Synod, in conformity with the recommendation thereof, agreed to refer the matter to the Commission, with instructions to them to consider the provisions of the Model Trust Deed of the Free Church of Scotland, and prepare, with the assistance of a competent Lawyer, a draft of a Deed, to be circulated when prepared throughout the Church, and submitted to the next meeting of Synod.

St. Gabriel Street Church, Montreal,

The Synod took up a reference from the Presbytery of Montreal for advice respecting the present state of St. Gabriel Street Church in that city. An extract from the Records of the Presbytery of Montreal, of date the 9th November, 1844, was read. Mr. Henry was heard on the reference for the Presbytery.

The hour of adjournment being come, it was agreed to take up the case at the opening of the Evening Session.

Business for evening.

It was also agreed that the subject of the addresses in the evening should be the means of promoting the advancement of religion; that these addresses should commence at 8 o'clock, and that after them the Moderator should give his closing address to the Synod, whilst that the Synod thereafter should continue in session so long during the evening as would be necessary to despatch the business now on the table.

The Synod was closed with prayer.

SESSION X.

Cobourg, *10th June, Tuesday, 7 P. M.*

The Synod met, and was constituted with prayer.

Resolutions respecting St. Gabriel Street Church.

The Synod resumed the consideration of the case of St. Gabriel Street Church, Montreal. Mr. Redpath and Mr. Esson were heard on the reference, when the Synod, on motion made by Mr. Gale, and seconded by Mr. Gordon, unanimously adopted the following resolutions:

First—That the Presbytery of Montreal be recommended to receive the resignation of Mr. Henry Esson, as minister of the church aforesaid, on the ground of his permanent appointment to the office of Professor of Literature and Philosophy in the Synod's Theological College, Toronto.

Second—That Mr. Esson be appointed to visit St. Gabriel Street congregation, and assist them in revising the constitution and deeds of the church, that the same in all that relates to spiritual things may be brought into harmony with the standards and practice of this Church.

Third—That these instruments, when so revised, shall be by Mr. Esson, or any other office-bearer of the church, laid before the Presbytery of the bounds, who, on being satisfied with the same, shall direct the congregation to take the requisite steps for procuring a successor to Mr. Esson, and shall also, with the assistance of the Home Mission Committee, if necessary, make arrangements for supplying the pulpit during the vacancy.

Addresses.

At eight o'clock the Synod proceeded to engage in devotional exercises. The 100th Psalm was sung, and Mr. Lindsay engaged in prayer. Mr. Bonar, in behalf of the committee on the overtures for inquiring into the state of Religion, and Presbyterial visitations, &c., reported a series of resolutions for the adoption of the Synod. Mr. Rintoul moved the adoption of the report, and spoke in support of it. Mr. Gale seconded it, and also supported it in an address. Mr. Esson also addressed the House, as did Mr. Bonar,

at great length. The Synod thereupon unanimously adopted the resolutions—the tenor whereof follows:

1. That the Synod see much cause to thank God for enabling them to take up the position in this land which they have been called to take, as a Free Protesting Church, maintaining the great principles of the Headship of Christ and His rule in His own house, so essential to the being and well-being of the Church of Christ, and seeking to fulfil the ministry they have received as a Presbyterian Church in this country, and a Missionary Church throughout its length and breadth.

2. That the Synod deeply deplore the low state of spiritual religion among themselves, and the people generally, the formality, worldliness, coldness and indifference which abound, and the sad effects which have flowed from these causes—and desire to humble themselves before God on account of these things.

3. That the Synod would direct the attention of Ministers, Elders and Congregations to this subject, and as one means of spiritual improvement and revival which seems called for by the peculiar circumstances of the church, as it has been blessed in other churches, the Synod authorise the following plan of deputation and visitation to be gone into:

FOR THE PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON:

1st Division—Rev. Mr. Arnot, Minister; Mr. J. R. Orr, Montreal, Elder.

2nd Division—Rev. Messrs. Reid and Esson, Ministers; Mr. Hall, Peterboro', Elder.

FOR PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO:

Rev. Mr. Bonar, Minister; Mr. Redpath, Elder.

FOR PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON:

Dr. Burns and Mr. Stark, Ministers; Mr. Milne, Cobourg, Elder.

FOR PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG:

Rev. Messrs. Gale and Lindsay, Ministers; Mr. Westland, Elder.

FOR PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL:

1. District around Montreal—Rev. Messrs. Bayne and Alexander, Ministers; Mr. Jeffrey, Elder.

2. District around Quebec—Messrs. McKenzie and Roger, Ministers; Mr. McIver, Elder.

4. That in the visitations the great object shall be to assemble the people of each congregation for devotional services and the preaching of the Gospel, to address them and the office-bearers on their duties and responsibilities respectively.

5. That in conducting each meeting it may be proper for the deputation to direct special attention to the following subjects:

1. The state of the Communion Roll, and the whole subject of Discipline.

2. The number of members admitted from time to time.

3. The attention bestowed on the young and others preparing for the first Communion.

4. The hopeful appearances of vital godliness among the young and old.

5. Diets of examination and subjects taken up at the visitations, Sabbath Schools, Teachers, Bible Classes.

6. The views and procedure of the congregation in reference to Christian Missions.

7. The state of Schools and Education.

8. Family Worship.

6. The visitors shall keep a regular minute of all their proceedings, and the state of each congregation shall be fully recorded, and the record kept for the use of the Synod.

7. That the Synod do earnestly recommend to Presbyteries, to take up the subject of the state of religion within their bounds,—and without at present fixing the time or plan of Presbyterial visitation, which they hope soon to see the universal practice of the church, do recommend to all Presbyteries of this church to visit the congregations and mission stations within the bounds, to see how, in these localities, "the vine doth flourish, and the pomegranate doth bud forth."

8. That Presbyteries shall encourage Sessions to have such meetings among themselves, and Presbyteries are directed to prepare a list of inquiries, to which they will call the attention of sessions and congregations.

Closing Address of Moderator.

The Moderator addressed the Synod in the prospect of their soon closing, and engaged in prayer. Thereafter a part of the 122nd Psalm was sung, and the congregation who had been present with the Synod retired about eleven o'clock.

Mr. Geggie admitted.

The Synod called for the report of the committee, on the application of Mr. Geggie and others—the same was read and sustained, and the Synod, in conformity with its recommendations, agreed to admit Mr. James Geggie as a minister of this church,

on the ground that he being in good and regular standing with the Synod at the time of its formation in July last, had virtually expressed his adherence to this church within two months of said period, although from circumstances for which he was not responsible he had not been received into the Presbytery of Montreal. The Synod referred Mr. Geggie to the Home Mission Committee for employment.

Mr. Lochead.

The Synod referred Mr. Lochead to the Presbytery of Kingston, with instructions to said Presbytery to entertain the application of Mr. Lochead, and deal with him in terms of the amended enactment for the admission of ministers.

Mr. Gale, in behalf of the committee on the resolutions on the Sustentation Fund Scheme, reported the following draft, and the same having been read, was unanimously adopted, as expressing the judgment of the Synod in this matter—the tenor whereof follows:

Resolutions respecting Sustentation Fund.

The Synod having considered the proceedings of the Commission, with respect to the Sustentation Fund, and the Report of the Sustentation Board, instituted by the Commission, as also the Reports of Presbyteries, as to the action of the several congregations within their bounds, in regard to the fund, find that a majority of congregations have approved of the principle of a common fund, and of the plan of distribution recommended by the Commission, but that great diversity of opinion exists with respect to the other arrangements suggested by the Commission.

Wherefore it is Resolved—

1st. That the principle of a common fund be approved, and recommended to the support of all the congregations connected with the Synod, as being, in the deliberate judgment of the Synod, well fitted to promote the efficiency and extension of the church, but inasmuch as particular engagements, or other circumstances, may render it inexpedient for some congregations to place themselves on the fund for the present, it is left to the discretion of congregations to act in this matter as they may deem expedient.

2nd. That all details as to the mode of raising their contributions to the Sustentation Fund, whether by Deacons' Courts, seat rents, subscriptions, or otherwise, be left entirely to the discretion of congregations.

3rd. That the arrangements of so much of the Scheme as is now approved and sanctioned by the Synod be remitted to the Commission for revision; and that in particular it is recommended to the Commission to consider and determine whether the minimum

of the contribution required, in order to entitle congregations to be placed upon the fund, as also the gradations of the scale, determining the dividends, might not with advantage be lowered. And farther, to obtain all the information in their power as to the local arrangements for raising contributions to the fund, which different congregations may adopt, or may deem desirable to be adopted.

4th. That the Sustentation Board be authorised to engage a suitable Agent for visiting congregations, and carrying out the objects of the Scheme, if they shall see fit.

The following gentlemen were also nominated as members of the Sustentation Board:—Isaac Buchanan, Esq., President; Andrew Jeffrey and John Redpath, Esquires, Vice Presidents; James McIntyre, Esq., Treasurer; James Walker, Esq., Secretary; Messrs. McMurrich, Shaw, J. F. Westland, McIntosh, McGlashan and Thomson, of Toronto; Messrs. C. C. Ferrie, D. McNab, W. P. McLaren, J. Osborne, William Cook, and J. Davidson, of Hamilton; Messrs. Notman, and McKenzie, of Dundas; Messrs. Orr, McIver, and Dr. McNider, of Montreal—with Dr. Burns, and Messrs. Rintoul, Harris, Stark, Gale and Bayne, ministers;—the whole power of regulating the distribution of the fund, under this scheme, being vested in the members of the Board, who are not ministers.

Token of gratitude to Free Church of Scotland.

The Synod having reference to the resolution adopted at the 4th session of the present meeting, respecting a token of gratitude to the Free Church of Scotland, unanimously adopted the following recommendation:—The Synod taking into consideration the duty and privilege of promoting the enlargement of Messiah's kingdom amongst Jews and Gentiles, and feeling a special interest in the Missions of the Free Church of Scotland to the Jews and the heathen, as these have been so manifestly owned and prospered by the great Head of the Church, and being at the same time desirous to express their gratitude to that church for what she has done for the cause of God throughout this land, and the encouragement and upholding of the church, by various deputations of able and faithful ministers, and by large offerings towards the education of students and the support of missionaries—recommend to all ministers and sessions to make an annual collection for the Foreign Missions of the Free Church of Scotland—such collection to be one of the stated collections of the church, and to be for the current year made on the first Sabbath of September, or the earliest convenient Sabbath thereafter, and within the said month. And the Synod farther recommend, that ministers do on the

Sabbath previous to such collection direct the attention of their people at once to the duty of labouring and praying for the enlargement and prosperity of Zion, and of thanksgiving to the Lord for what he has wrought in these our times, and is still doing through the churches that are witnessing faithfully for his Crown and Covenant.

Treasurer for Mission Collections.

The Synod appoint John Redpath, Esq., Montreal, to be General Treasurer for receiving and remitting the collections thus made to Scotland; and the Synod also remit to the Commission to take such steps for addressing the people on the duty and privilege of making liberal offerings for this and the other Christian enterprises in which the church is engaged, as to the Commission may seem expedient.

Scheme for Collections.

The Synod agreed to renew the injunction passed at the 3rd session of October last, for annual collections in behalf of Home Missions, the College, and the Synod Fund—such collections, with the collection for the Missions of the Free Church, to be made as far as practicable in all congregations according to the following scheme:

Collection for Foreign Missions of Free Church of Scotland -	September 7, 1845.
Collection for the Presbytery's Home Mission Fund - - - -	December 7, 1845.
Collection for the Theological College - - - - - - - - - - - -	March 1, 1846.
Synod Fund - - - - - - - - - - -	May 31, 1846.

Students to be Licensed.

Leave having been asked in behalf of the Presbytery of Toronto to take Messrs. John McKinnon, Angus McColl, and Robert Wallace, students, on trials for license, the Synod, satisfied with the testimonials in their behalf from the College Committee, granted leave.

Reports on Formulæ.

The Synod called for the reports of Presbyteries on the act respecting Formulæ for the ordination of Ministers, Elders and Deacons, when the Presbytery of Hamilton gave in a report recommending certain alterations. The report was received and approved of, and the Synod adopted the alterations accordingly, and the act, as amended, is as follows:

FORMULA

TO BE SIGNED BY MINISTERS, ELDERS, DEACONS, AND PROBATIONERS.

Formula for Ministers.

I, ——, do hereby declare that I do sincerely own and believe the whole Doctrine contained in the Westminster Confession of Faith, as approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, in the year one thousand six hundred and forty-seven, to be the truths of God, and I do own the purity of worship presently authorised and practised in this Church, and also the Presbyterian Government and Discipline thereof: which Doctrine, Worship, and Church Government I am persuaded are founded on the Word of God and are agreeable thereto; and I promise that, through the grace of God, I shall firmly and constantly adhere to the same, and to the utmost of my power shall in my station assert, maintain, and defend the said Doctrine, Worship, Discipline, and Government of this Church, by Sessions, Presbyteries, and Synods; that I shall, in my practice, conform myself to the said Worship, and submit to the said Discipline and Government, and never endeavour, directly or indirectly, the prejudice or subversion of the same; and I promise that I shall follow no divisive course from the present order in the Church; renouncing all Doctrines, Tenets, and opinions whatsoever contrary to or inconsistent with the said Doctrine, Worship, Discipline or Government of this Church.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO A MINISTER AT HIS ORDINATION.

Questions to a Minister.

1. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and manners?

2. Do you sincerely own and believe the whole doctrine contained in the Confession of Faith, approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, in the year 1647, to be founded upon the Word of God: and do you acknowledge the same as the confession of your faith; and will you firmly and constantly adhere thereto, and to the utmost of your power assert, maintain, and defend the same, and the purity of worship as presently practised in this church?

3. Do you disown all Popish, Arian, Socinian, Arminian, Erastian, and other doctrines, tenets, and opinions whatsoever, contrary to or inconsistent with the foresaid Confession of Faith?

4. Believing, as you declare, that the Lord Jesus, as King and Head of the Church, hath therein appointed a government in the hand of church officers distinct from the civil magistrate, are you resolved to maintain, and that, at all hazards, that in the administration of spiritual things, the church is bound to act ministerially under Christ her head, as responsible in such administration to him alone; while, in all things secular and civil, her officers and members are subject to the laws and rules that govern civil society?

5. Are you persuaded that the Presbyterian government and discipline of this church are founded upon the Word of God, and agreeable thereto, and do you promise to submit to the said government and discipline, and to concur with the same, and never to endeavour, directly or indirectly, the prejudice or subversion thereof, but to the utmost of your power, in your station, to maintain, support, and defend the said discipline and Presbyterian government by Sessions, Presbyteries, and Synods, during all the days of your life?

6. Are you persuaded that the pastoral relation can be legitimately founded only on the free choice and consent of the people?

7. Do you promise to submit yourself willingly and humbly, in the spirit of meekness, unto the admonitions of the brethren of this Presbytery, and to be subject to them and all other Presbyteries, and the superior judicatory of this church, where God in his providence shall cast your lot; and that according to your power you will maintain the unity and peace of this church against error and schism, notwithstanding of whatever trouble or persecution may arise, and that you shall follow no divisive course from the present doctrine, worship, discipline, and government of this church?

8. Are not zeal for the honour of God, love to Jesus Christ, and desire of saving souls, your great motives and chief inducements to enter into the functions of the holy ministry, and not worldly designs and interests?

9. Have you used any undue methods, either by yourself or others, in procuring this call?

10. Do you engage, in the strength and grace of Jesus Christ our Lord and Master, to rule well your own family, to live a holy and circumspect life, and faithfully, diligently, and cheerfully to discharge all the parts of the ministerial work, to the edification of the body of Christ?

11. Do you accept of and close with the call to be pastor of this church, and promise through grace to perform all the duties of a faithful minister of the gospel among this people?

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO A PROBATIONER.

Questions to a Probationer.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, the same as the foregoing.

7. Do you promise that you will subject yourself to the several judicatories of this church, and are you willing to subscribe to these things?

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO AN ELDER.

Questions to an Elder.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, the same as the foregoing.

7. Do you accept of the office of an Elder of this church, and promise through grace, faithfully, diligently, and cheerfully, to discharge the duties thereof?

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO A DEACON.

Questions to a Deacon.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, the same as the foregoing.

7. Do you accept of the office of a Deacon of this church, and promise through grace, faithfully, diligently, and cheerfully, to discharge the duties thereof.

The Synod ordained that the aforesaid Formulæ and Questions, shall be used by Presbyteries at the licensing of Probationers, and the ordination and admission of Ministers, and by Sessions at the ordination and admission of Elders and Deacons.

The Synod agreed to refer to the Commission the overture for a pastoral letter, and an overture respecting disputes about church property.

Home Missions.

The Synod had their attention directed to the recommendations respecting the prosecution of Home Missions issued by the Home Mission Committee, and published in the *Record* for March, 1845, and the Synod approved of the same.

Draft of Testimony.

The Synod having called for the report of the committee appointed to prepare the draft of a testimony, and having heard the statement of the convener of the progress made by the committee therein, approved of their diligence, and re-appointed the committee, with instructions to complete the draft, and submit the same when finished to the Commission, in order that it may be more fully matured for the consideration of the Synod at next meeting.

Thanks for hospitality.

The Synod agreed to record their thanks to the members of the congregation at Cobourg, for the Christian hospitality received at their hands by the Ministers and Elders of the Synod during the meeting in Cobourg.

Thanks for use of Church.

The Synod agreed to tender their thanks to the Minister, Elders and Deacons of the church at Cobourg for the use of the same had during the present session. Thanks were tendered accordingly by the Moderator.

Thanks to Deputies, &c.

The Synod agreed to record their grateful sense of the assistance derived from Messrs. Bonar and Arnot, deputies from the Free Church of Scotland, in all the counsels, deliberations, and religious exercises in which they have been engaged; and to record also

their gratitude to the Free Church of Scotland for sending forth such approved labourers as a deputation to this country—and the Moderator was requested to convey to the Colonial Committee of the Free Church a suitable expression of gratitude.

Next Meeting. The Synod agreed that the next meeting shall be held at Hamilton, on the first Wednesday of June, 1846, to be opened with sermon by the Moderator, at the hour of 7 P. M.

Synod closed. The Synod was closed with the apostolical blessing, at twenty minutes past twelve, midnight.

(Signed) ROBERT BURNS, D. D.,
MODERATOR.

WILLIAM RINTOUL, A. M.,
SYNOD CLERK.

MINUTES OF THE SYNOD AT HAMILTON.

SESSION I.

HAMILTON, KNOX'S CHURCH,
3rd June, 1846—*Wednesday*, 7 *P. M.*

The Synod met and heard sermon from Dr. Burns, Moderator, from *Ephesians* i. 22,—"And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church," and *Colossians* i. 18,—"And he is the head of the body, the church." Moderator's Sermon.

The Synod was constituted for business with prayer by the Moderator.

Presbytery Rolls were given in, and the Synod Roll was made up and read, and the members present answered to their names.

[*The names of those who were present at this or any of the subsequent Sessions are marked with an asterisk. The Presbyteries of Kingston, Brockville and Perth, compose what was formerly the Presbytery of Kingston, as see Session X, page 76.*

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

MIINSTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*James Rogers	George Boulter	*Demorestville.*
*Henry Gordon	Alex. Auchinvole	*Gananoque.*
*Alexander McLean		
Thomas Wightman		*Camden.*
*William Hamilton	*David Andrew	*Picton.*
*Robert Reid		*Kingston.*

PRESBYTERY OF BROCKVILLE.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*William Smart	George McNish	*Brockville.*
*Robert Boyd	*George Scott	*Prescott.*
*James Geggie	John Miller	*Edwardsburgh.*
*William J. Macdowell	Andrew Carson	*South Gower.*
William Lochead		*Osgoode and Gloucester.*
Alexander Luke		*Bellamysville.*

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*Thomas Wardrope	Donald Kennedy	*Bytown.*
William G. Johnstone	*Robert Davidson	*Ramsay.*
*Andrew Melville		*Perth.*

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*John Clugston		*Quebec.*
Daniel Clark	John Munroe	*Indian Lands.*
David Black		*Saint Therese.*
Thomas Henry		*La Chute.*
S. C. Fraser		*Portneuf.*
*William Leishman	James Leslie	*St. Gabriel-st., Montreal.*
*Thos. McLachlan, *act. min.*	*John Redpath	*Coté Street, Montreal.*

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*Mark Y. Stark	William Miller	*Dundas and Ancaster.*
*Alexander Gale	*Robert Ewen	*Hamilton.*
*Donald McKenzie	*Alexander Rose	*Zorra.*
*John Bayne	*George Davidson	*Galt.*
*Angus Mackintosh	*James Kimmey	*Thorold.*
*Daniel Allan	*Matthew Neilson	*Stratford.*
*William Meldrum		*Puslinch.*
*Daniel Eastman		*Grimsby.*
William Macalister		*Port Sarnia.*
*George Cheyne	*John Colville	*Saltfleet and Binbrook.*
*Robert Lindsay		*Ayr.*
*George Smellie	*Charles Allan	*Fergus.*
Robert Peden		*Amherstburgh.*
*William Graham	*Samuel Carnochan	*Tuckersmith.*
*John McKinnon	*John Turner	*St. Thomas.*
Dr. Ferrier,		*Caledonia.*
———	*Gilbert Bastedo	*Wellington Square.*

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*Dr. Burns,	*James F. Westland	*Knox's Church, Toronto.*
*William Rintoul	*James Paterson	*Streetsville.*
*James Harris		
*Henry Esson		
———	D. Campbell	*Vaughan.*
———	*D. G. McKay	*West Gwillimbury.*
———	*Donald McKinnon	*Norval.*
———	*James Frazer	*Union Church, Esquesing.*
———	*John Bell	*Nassagaweya.*
———	*John Burns	*Acton.*
———	*David Duff	*Oakville and Trafalgar.*

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
James Douglass	*Robert Seaton	*Cavan (South.)*
*John M. Roger	*John Stothart	*Peterboro' and Cavan.*
*Thomas Alexander	*Andrew Milne	*Cobourg.*
*William Reid	*Donald McRae	*Grafton and Colborne.*
*Alexander Steele		*Darlington.*
———		*Otonabee.*

Mr. Bayne, of Galt, was unanimously chosen Moderator for the ensuing twelve months. — New Moderator.

Mr. Alexander Fraser, of Kirkhill, and Mr. John McTavish, of Balachulish, ministers of the Free Church of Scotland, and Mr. John Turnbull, of Miramichi, a minister of the Synod of New Brunswick, adhering to the standards of the Westminster Confession, being present, were cordially welcomed, and invited to sit and deliberate with the Synod. — Deputies from Free Church.

A Committee of Bills and Overtures was appointed. Committees for revising the records of the several Presbyteries, and the records of the Synod and Commission, were appointed. — Committees.

The Synod agreed that Presbyteries should be allowed to meet in Hamilton for any competent business during the present session.

The Synod agreed to meet to-morrow morning, at 7 o'clock, for prayer, and at 11 o'clock for business.

The Synod was closed with the apostolical blessing at 11 o'clock.

SESSION II.

HAMILTON, *4th June, Thursday, 7 A.M.*

The Synod met for devotional exercises. On the call of the Moderator several brethren engaged in prayer, various portions of the Word were read, and portions of Psalms sung.

At 11 A. M., the Synod was constituted with prayer. The Minutes were read.

The Synod agreed that the order for business, during the present sessions, shall be as follows: — Order of business.

The Synod to meet for devotional exercises at 7 o'clock, A. M.— for business at half-past 9 A. M., and continue in session until

1 P. M.—to meet at half-past 2 P. M., and adjourn at 6, to meet again at half-past 7 P. M.

No member to leave the Synod permanently without permission.

Mr. Esson added to Presbytery of Toronto.

The attention of the Synod having been called to the fact, that Mr. Esson, in consequence of accepting a professorship in the College since the last meeting, has demitted his charge of the congregation of St. Gabriel Street Church, Montreal, and is not now formally attached to any Presbytery, agreed to appoint him to be a member of the Presbytery of Toronto. The Synod having a special reference in this appointment at once to Mr. Esson's present occupation in instructing those who are under training for the ministry, and to the fewness of the settled ministers in that Presbytery, and not willing that it should form a precedent for constituting ministers who are without charges members of Presbyteries.

The Synod made arrangements for supplying sermon to different places in the neighbourhood of Hamilton.

SESSION III.

HAMILTON, *4th June, Thursday*, 3 *P. M.*

The Minutes were read.

Division of Presbytery of Kingston.

The Synod received, through the committee of Bills and Overtures, an overture from the Presbytery of Kingston for the division of that Presbytery, as now constituted, into two or three Presbyteries. The Synod sustained the overture, and referred it to the following committee, viz., Mr. Reid (convener), Mr. Roger, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Stark, Mr. Cheyne, Mr. Smellie, Ministers; Mr. Burns, Mr. Westland, Mr. Paterson, Elders; with instructions to consider the same, meet with the Presbytery of Kingston, and report on the overture at the session on Tuesday morning.

Committee on Accounts.

The Synod appointed the following committee on accounts, viz., Mr. Burns (convener), Mr. Westland, Mr. George Davidson, Mr. James Paterson, Elders; and Mr. Stark, Mr. Alexander, and Mr. Harris, Ministers; with instructions to examine, as far as practicable, the funds of Presbyteries for Home Missions, and report on the same—to report also on the Synod Fund, the College Fund, the Bursary Fund, and the fund for paying the expenses of visitations.

Donation for Church Building.

Dr. Burns intimated to the Synod that a donation had been received from the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland, amounting to £200, sterling, to aid in the building of churches within the bounds of the Synod, and was now in the hands of Mr. Spreull, Treasurer to the Bursary Fund.

The Synod received this communication with high satisfaction, and unanimously agreed to record their cordial thanks to the Colonial Committee for this renewed token of their liberality.

The Synod agreed that the committee on accounts be empowered to receive applications for grants from this fund, and report their judgment on any such applications at a subsequent session.

Model Trust Deed.

The Synod called for the report of the committee of the Commission on a Model Trust Deed. Mr. Gale was heard on the same at great length, and read copious extracts from a draft which the committee had prepared, when, after deliberation, the Synod unanimously agreed to record their approbation of the diligence of the committee, and of the convener in particular; and the Synod, approving of the leading features of the draft, re-appointed the committee—Mr. Gale (convener), Mr. Stark, Mr. Bayne, and Mr. Cheyne, Ministers, and Mr. McMillan and Mr. Kyle, Elders, with authority to them to revise the draft under the direction of competent legal counsel, and print it when so revised, and transmit copies to every minister of the church, with the view of its being submitted to the consideration of Presbyteries and Sessions, and to be finally judged of at the next ordinary meeting of Synod: and the Synod farther agreed that the draft, when revised, may be used by any congregation that may be required to take immediate conveyance of church property.

The Synod was closed with prayer.

SESSION IV.

HAMILTON, *4th June, Thursday*, 8 *P. M.*

The Synod met, and was constituted with praise and prayer.

Monument to John Knox.

The subject of a monument to John Knox, on the site of the house which was inhabited by him when minister of Edinburgh, was brought before the Synod by Dr. Burns, and Mr. Stark of Dundas and Ancaster, who had been named by the committee of erection as corresponding members for Canada. The monument

is intended to consist of a building comprising three churches, with a massive tower in the centre; and the cost of erection is estimated at from £15,000 to £20,000, the foundation stone having been laid on the 18th of May last, the third anniversary of the great Disruption in the Church of Scotland. The Synod did, and hereby do, unanimously and cordially approve of the measure, and recommend it to the liberal patronage of the members and friends of this church; and with the view of obtaining subscriptions, the Synod associate with the above brethren the following members, with power to add to their number, and with liberty to avail themselves of the services of such as may be friendly to the object, though not office-bearers of this church:—The Moderator, Mr. Gale, Hamilton; Mr. Boyd, Prescott; Mr. Clugston, Quebec; Mr. Alexander, Cobourg; Mr. Leishman, Montreal, Mr. Roger, Peterboro'; Mr. Reid, Grafton;—Messrs. James F. Westland, Toronto; John Fraser, London; John Burns, Esquesing; Andrew Milne, Cobourg; James Gibb, Quebec; John Redpath, Montreal. Rev. Dr. Burns, convener.

Addresses from Deputies.

The Moderator introduced to the Synod, with an appropriate address, Mr. Frazer and Mr. McTavish, the Deputies from the Free Church of Scotland.

These brethren addressed the Synod and congregation on the state and prospects of the Free Church of Scotland, particularly on the revived state of religion throughout many parts of the Highlands of Scotland, since the disruption in 1843.

Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Burns severally moved and seconded, in appropriate addresses, a series of Resolutions, which were unanimously carried. These resolutions are as follows:

First—The Synod rejoice in seeing amongst them this day, and receiving as members of court, the respectable Deputies of the Free Church of Scotland, and the Rev. Mr. Turnbull, from New Brunswick, and they desire to tender to them their brotherly regards and best wishes.

Second—The Synod desire to record their deep sense of gratitude to the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland, for the distinguished services of the different deputies who have been commissioned to visit the Province from time to time, and who have preached the Gospel in English and in Gælic in various destitute districts, and to whom, though now returned to their flocks and homes, the Synod still look as to a company of zealous and active friends interested in the religious state of this colony.

Third—The Synod desire to acknowledge the hand of God in the progress of their infant seminary, and specially to advert to the very efficient services rendered to the same during the session of last winter, by one of the deputies from the Free Church, the Rev. Dr. Willis, to whom the best wishes of the Synod are due, and are hereby tendered.

At half-past 10 P. M., the Synod was closed with prayer.

SESSION V.

HAMILTON, *5th June, Friday, 9 A. M.*

The Synod met for devotional exercises, and engaged in praise, prayer, and reading the Scriptures.

At 10 A. M. the Synod had a recess, to allow committees an opportunity of meeting.

At 11 A. M. the Synod was constituted with prayer.

The Minutes of the sessions of the afternoon and evening of yesterday were read.

Sustentation Fund.

The Synod took up the subject of the Sustentation Fund, when there was read—1st. An overture from the Presbytery of Montreal to have the fund assimilated to that of the Free Church of Scotland—2nd. The report of the Sustentation Board, together with a printed circular from the Treasurer and Secretary of the Board to the office-bearers and members of the Presbyterian Church of Canada; and 3rd. A letter from Mr. James Balfour, Junior, of date Edinburgh, 29th January, 1846. Mr. Walker was heard on the report. The Synod had read the Minutes of the session of Synod of 10th June last, and those also of the Commission of the 14th January last, on the subject of the minimum of salaries of ministers admissible to the fund.

Motion.

After considering the report, it was moved by Mr. Rintoul, and seconded by Mr. Smellie, that the report be received, and the diligence, faithfulness, and disinterestedness of the Board in the matters intrusted to them, approved of.

Amendment.

It was moved, in amendment, by Dr. Burns, and seconded by Mr. Alexander, that while the Synod approve of the report in all its financial statements, and also of the fidelity of the Board in all their transactions, they decidedly disapprove of the comment in the preamble to the report, as being uncalled for, and calculated unnecessarily to wound the feelings of congregations.

After reasoning, the vote was taken, when there voted for the motion 40; for the amendment 3. The motion was carried.

Against this decision Dr. Burns gave in his dissent, in his own name, and for as many as might adhere to him, for reasons to be given in, when there adhered to this dissent Mr. Alexander and Mr. Westland.

It was agreed to resume the consideration of this overture at a subsequent session.

The Synod agreed to meet in the afternoon at 4 P. M.

At 2 P. M. the Synod was closed with prayer.

SESSION VI.

HAMILTON, *5th June,*
Friday, 4 P. M.

The Minutes of the forenoon session were read.

College Report. The report of the College Committee, for the past year, was given in by Mr. Rintoul, convener of the committee, and read.

On motion made and seconded, the report was received and sustained, and a conference was held on the suggestions and recommendations contained in said report, until the hour of adjournment.

SESSION VII.

HAMILTON, *5th June,*
Friday 7½ P. M.

The Synod met, and was constituted with praise and prayer.

Mr. Turnbull. The Moderator, in an appropriate address, introduced Mr. Turnbull, of Miramichi, a minister of the Presbyterian Church of New Brunswick, holding the Westminster standards. Mr. Turnbull addressed the Synod, at considerable length, on the state and prospects of that church, whereupon, on motion made and seconded, the Synod unanimously agreed to record their satisfaction at the visit of Mr. Turnbull, and the pleasure with which they listened to his address—to record also their deep sympathy with the brethren in New Brunswick, under the trials and difficulties which they have to encounter, in bearing a consistent testimony to the Headship of the Redeemer, and in ministering his word in wide

and thinly settled tracts of country. The Synod request Mr. Turnbull, on his return to the scene of his labours—to which it is their prayer that he may be carried in safety and peace—to express these sentiments to his brethren, and to assure them that it is the desire and hope of this Synod that there may yet be maintained between them and the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of New Brunswick, holding the Westminster Standards, some stated intercourse in the way of a reciprocation of deputations or correspondence.

Widows' Fund. The Synod called for the memorial from certain members of the church in Ancaster, for the establishment of a fund for the widows and orphans of ministers. The memorial was read, and several members addressed the court on the subject, when, on motion made and seconded, the Synod agreed to express their cordial approbation of the object of the memorial, and their high sense of the disinterestedness of the memorialists.

The Synod appointed the committee on the funds of the church to consider the scheme, and report some measure for the adoption of the Synod.

The Synod agreed to meet to-morrow for devotional exercises, at 7 o'clock, and for business at 10 A. M.

The Synod was closed with prayer at 10¼ P. M.

SESSION VIII.

HAMILTON, *6th June,*
Saturday, 7 A. M.

The Synod met, and spent an hour in praise, prayer, and reading the Holy Scriptures.

At 10 A. M. the Synod met for business, and was constituted with prayer. The Minutes of the sessions of the afternoon and evening of yesterday were read.

College Report. The Synod resumed the consideration of the report of the College Committee, after full conference, on all the suggestions and recommendations, the following motion was unanimously agreed to. The Synod having maturely considered *seriatim* the various suggestions and recommendations of the College Committee, agreed to record their unanimous and deep sense of the importance of this institution to the welfare of the church, and the necessity of placing it on a more extensive and efficient

basis, and appoint the following committee:—Mr. Rintoul (convener), Dr. Burns, Mr. Clugston, Mr. Reid, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. McTavish, to consider several points which have been brought under the attention of the Synod, viz., incorporation and name of the institution, the number of professors, the erection of suitable buildings, and the establishment of an academy for the training of youth in the branches of education preliminary to a collegiate course, and of a boarding-house for the accommodation of students and scholars, and the best way of raising funds for the ordinary expenses of the institution and for the erection of buildings, and, in reference to the views on these points expressed in the Synod, to draft a scheme of instructions for the guidance of the College Committee in regard to them, to report at the afternoon sederunt on Monday. The Synod appointed the following Committee, viz., Professor Esson, Mr. Leishman, Mr. Boyd, the Moderator, Mr. Smellie, Mr. Reid, to prepare regulations in regard to the admission of students, and the course of study in the College as now constituted.

It was agreed that the Synod should not meet for business this afternoon, to allow Ministers time to travel to the stations and congregations around Hamilton for the services of to-morrow.

Revival of Religion.

The subject of the Revival of Religion having been brought before the Synod, in a letter from Mr. Graham, of Tuckersmith: It was agreed to meet this evening, for prayer and supplication for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to the reviving of the Church.

The Synod agreed to meet on Monday, at 10 A. M., for devotional exercises, and at 11 for business.

The Synod was closed with prayer at 1 P. M.

SESSION IX.

HAMILTON, *6th June.*
Saturday, 7 *P. M.*

Devotional meeting.

The Synod met and was constituted with praise and prayer. A portion of the Word was read; and several brethren, on the call of the Moderator, engaged in prayer. Mr. McTavish, also, on the call of the Moderator, delivered an Address appropriate to the object of the meeting. After engaging in praise, the Synod was closed at 9 P. M., with the Apostolical blessing.

SESSION X.

HAMILTON, *8th June,*
Monday, 10 *A. M.*

The Synod met for devotional exercises; several brethren engaged in prayer; a portion of the Scriptures was read.

The Synod was constituted with prayer at 11 A. M.

Letter to Moderator of Irish Presbyterian Church.

The Synod agreed that a respectful letter from the Moderator should be sent to the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, expressing the pleasure with which this Synod, and the Church generally, would receive a deputation from the Irish Presbyterian Church, and in reference to the act of this Synod for the admission of Ministers from other Churches. The Synod agreed that the Moderator should also call the attention of the Moderator of the Irish Church to the provision in said act, according to which, Ministers or Probationers of the Free Church of Scotland, or the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, "coming in the way of orderly translation, or expressly designated or commissioned as Ministers or Missionaries to this Church," are, on the production of the proper documents, admitted at once as Ministers or Probationers of this Church: And farther that he should suggest to the Moderator of the Irish Church, the importance of there being some recognised Committee in the General Assembly, through whom a special designation or commission might be given to Ministers or Probationers coming to this country from the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This letter to be prepared by the following Committee—the Moderator, Mr. Gale, Mr. Stark, Ministers, and Mr. Ewen, Elder.

Mr. McLachlan, Deputy.

Mr. Thomas McLachlan, of Stratherrick, a Deputy from the Free Church of Scotland, was introduced, and cordially invited to take part in the deliberations of the Synod.

Students to be licensed.

An application was made in behalf of the Presbytery of Hamilton, for leave to take on trial for license Messrs. Lachlan, McPherson, and William Ross Sutherland, students certified as having finished their collegiate course.

An application was also made in behalf of the Presbytery of Toronto, for leave to take on trial for license Mr. Peter Gray, also certified as having finished his collegiate course.

The Synod heard Mr. Rintoul, convener of the College Committee, in regard to the character and attainments of these young men, as manifested in their examination before the College Committee, and their occupation as catechists: when leave was granted.

Mr. Boyd, Student.

The Presbytery of Toronto applied for leave to take Mr. James Boyd on trial for license any time before the next stated meeting of Synod. Mr. Rintoul stated, on behalf of the Presbytery, that the Committee had felt disposed at the end of the session in reference to the advanced period of Mr. Boyd's studies and his acquirements, to have recommended him as admissible for license, but that he himself had expressed a desire to study another session at the College: that since the close of the winter session, a strong desire had been expressed to have Mr. Boyd settled in Markham, where he is now labouring as a catechist; and that the Presbytery are now desirous to be authorised to take him on trial for license any time before the next meeting of Synod, if, on farther examination, they deem it expedient so to do. Leave was granted as sought for.

Mr. Burns, Student.

An application was made in behalf of the Presbytery of Toronto, for leave to take Mr. Robert Burns, student, on trial for license. Mr. Rintoul was heard in support of the application, and stated that the College Committee and Presbytery were alike satisfied as to the maturity of the gifts and graces of Mr. Burns; that any doubt respecting his fitness for license that was entertained, was on the ground of his age, as he had not yet completed his 20th year, and had not consented to receive license; that the application now made originated in a petition which had been presented to the Presbytery of Toronto, from the First Free Presbyterian Congregation of Kingston, and supported before the Presbytery by Commissioners from said Congregation; which petition craved the Presbytery to take all competent steps for having Mr. Burns licensed as a Probationer as soon as might be practicable or expedient. The Synod, after deliberation, agreed to refer the case to the Presbytery of Toronto, with instructions to meet with Mr. Burns, and confer with him, and in the event of his consenting to receive license, to bring the case before the Commission at the autumnal meeting.

Division of Presbytery of Kingston.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee on the overture for the division of the Presbytery of Kingston; when the same was read and sustained; and the Synod, in conformity with its recommendations, ordained that the Presbytery of Kingston as now bounded, shall be divided into three Presbyteries, to be severally designated the Presbytery of Kingston, the Presbytery of Brockville, and the Presbytery of Perth. The Presbytery of Kingston to consist of the Midland, Victoria, and Prince Edward Districts, together with the township of Leeds. The Presbytery of Brockville to consist of the Johnstown and Eastern Districts, together with the townships of Osgoode and Gloucester: And the Presbytery of Perth to consist of the Bathurst and Dalhousie Districts, together with the townships of Bristol and Clarendon, and other places on the north-east of the Grand River; and the Synod appoint the Ministers within the bounds specified for the Presbytery of Brockville, with representative Elders, to meet at Brockville to constitute themselves into a Presbytery, on the 1st Wednesday of August, at 12 o'clock, noon. And the Ministers and Elders within the Presbytery of Perth, to meet at Perth on the same day and hour, to constitute themselves into a Presbytery. And the Synod farther appoint an extract of this minute to be transmitted to each Presbytery, to be entered on the Minutes: and the Records of the Presbytery of Kingston as heretofore constituted, to remain in possession of the Presbytery of Kingston, as it is to be bounded according to this act.

The Report of the Committee on the Records of the Commission and Synod, was read and sustained; and in conformity with the recommendations thereof, the Records were ordered to be attested as accurately and carefully kept; and they were attested accordingly by the Moderator.

The Synod was closed with prayer.

SESSION XI.

HAMILTON, *8th June, Monday, 3 P. M.*

The Synod met and was constituted with prayer.

The Minutes of the morning session were read.

Report on Widows' Fund.

The Report of the Committee on the Widows' Fund was read and sustained; and the Synod approving of the same, appoint the following Committee:—Mr. George Smellie, Convener; Mr. Alexander Gale, Mr. J. Davidson, Mr. J. Burns, with instructions to communicate with a skilful actuary as to the principles and rules proper for the scheme, and to correspond with Dr. Gordon, Convener of the Committee of the Widow's Fund of the Free Church on the subject; and the Synod in the meantime authorise the Committee to take immediate measures for the raising a fund by stated subscriptions among Ministers, contributions of the friends of the cause throughout the Province, and collections in the Churches—to report progress to the Commission at the meeting in autumn.

Committee. United Secession Synod.

Mr. Gale, as Convener of the Committee for meeting with a Committee of the United Secession Missionary Synod, on the subject of Union, was heard at great length, and read a written statement of the interviews that had taken place between the two Committees. He also stated that the two Committees had agreed to certain queries on the practical bearings of the doctrine of the Headship of Christ, to be answered by each Committee; and that the answers were to be interchanged before the meeting of this Synod. Mr. Gale read the answers given to these queries by this Synod's Committee, and reported that they had been communicated to the Chairman of the Committee of the Secession Synod, but that no communication had yet been received from that Committee. The Synod had lengthened reasoning on the Report; when it was agreed to resume the subject at the forenoon session of to-morrow.

The Synod was closed with prayer, at 6 P. M.

SESSION XII.

HAMILTON, *8th June,*
Monday, 7½ P. M.

The Synod met and was constituted with praise and prayer.

Records attested.

Reports were read from the Committees for revising the Records of the Presbyteries of Hamilton and Cobourg, attesting their accuracy. The Synod sustained the Reports, and ordered the Records to be attested, and the same were accordingly attested by the Moderator.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee on Home Missions.

Report on Home Missions.

The Report was read by Mr. Gale, Convener. Reports were also read from the Presbyteries of Montreal, Toronto, Kingston, Cobourg and Hamilton, and listened to with great interest.

The Moderator introduced Mr. McLachlan, deputy from the Free Church. Mr. McLachlan addressed the Synod and congregation, giving an account of the Home Missionary operations of the Free Church of Scotland, and of his own labours in Canada since his arrival; he concluded with moving the adoption of the Report. The motion was seconded and unanimously agreed to.

Overture.

The Overture on Popery, from the Presbytery of Montreal, was taken up and read, when Mr. Clugston, of Quebec, Moderator of the Presbytery of Montreal, and John Redpath, Esq., Elder from Coté St. Congregation, were heard in its support.

Respecting Popery.

After reasoning on the subject, it was moved and seconded, That the Synod receive the Overture with approbation, and resolve to issue a strong declaration against the errors of the system of Popery, combined with a pointed disapproval of the conduct of those professing members of this Church, who give countenance to the system by their contributions—their influence and example, or by encouragement of customs and practices decidedly Popish, or of Seminaries of Education connected with the Popish Church; and further with the view of this, appoint a Pastoral Letter to be drawn up and circulated among our members in Lower Canada, and wherever Popery prevails in the Province, warning them of the evils of the system, pointing out their duties as Protestants, and admonishing all the members of this Church to be specially cautious in appearing to give any encouragement to Popery. They further resolved to give all countenance to the proceedings of the French Canadian Missionary Society, and to aid them in such ways as may be found most effectual for promoting these great and benevolent objects.

It was agreed that the Synod should meet to-morrow for devotional exercises at 9 A. M.

At 11 P. M. the Synod was closed with prayer.

SESSION XIII.

HAMILTON, *9th June,*
Tuesday, 10 *A. M.*

The Synod met and devoted an hour to praise, prayer, and reading of the Word.

At 11 A. M. the Synod was constituted for business.

The Minutes of the sessions of the afternoon and evening of yesterday, were read.

Reports on Records.

The Report of the Committee on the Records of the Presbytery of Kingston was read, when, after discussion, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously agreed to, that the Report be sustained, and to refer the Report to the Presbytery of Kingston, with instructions to them previous to their being divided into three Presbyteries (as has been enacted by the Synod) to revise the Records and amend the same, and submit them to the Commission at the autumnal meeting for attestation.

The Committee on the Records of the Toronto Presbytery reported. The Report was sustained, and the Synod agreed to

Reports on Records.

refer the Records back to the Presbytery, that they may be amended and completed and brought up to the Commission for attestation.

The Report on the Records of the Presbytery of Montreal, was read and sustained; and the Synod, in conformity with the recommendations of the Report, ordered the Records to be attested (*cum nota*). The Records were accordingly attested by the Moderator.

Reasons of Dissent.

Reasons of dissent from the decision of Synod on the reception of the Report of the Sustentation Board by Dr. Burns, adhered to by Mr. Alexander and Mr. Westland, were given in and read, and ordered to be kept *in retentis*.

Sustentation Scheme.

The Synod proceeded to take up the Overture of the Presbytery of Montreal, for an alteration in the sustentation scheme, and the appointment of a deputation or other agency to bring the subject before the people.

Mr. Clugston and Mr. Redpath were heard on the overture, when, after lengthened discussion, it was agreed that the following Committee, Mr. Gale, Mr. Roger, Mr. McLachlan, Ministers, and Mr Redpath, Elder, should draft a resolution embodying the common views which had been brought out in the course of the discussion, and submit the same for the adoption of the Synod at the session in the afternoon.

The Synod agreed to meet at 4 P. M.

At 2 P. M. the Synod closed.

SESSION XIV.

HAMILTON, *9th June, Tuesday*, 4 *P. M.*

The Synod met and was constituted with prayer.

The Minutes of the morning session were read.

Mr. Redpath, in behalf of the Committee for drafting a resolution on the overture of the Presbytery of Montreal respecting the sustentation scheme, submitted a draft, which was read and sustained; and on motion made and seconded, the draft was adopted, and is as follows:

Deliverance on Sustentation Scheme.

The Synod having considered the overture from the Presbytery of Montreal, agreed without any interference with the existing sustentation scheme, to remit the overture to the Sustentation Board, with instruction to them to take the whole subject of the

sustentation of the ministry into consideration, to call for reports of Presbyteries on the subject, and report their views thereon at the next meeting of the Synod. The Synod also agree to recommend to the Sustentation Board to provide, as soon as possible, a suitable agency for promoting the sustentation of the ministry among the several congregations of the Church. And farther resolved: That it be an instruction to Presbyteries to call for an annual statement, from each of the congregations within their bounds, of the number of members and adherents connected therewith; of all their receipts and disbursements on behalf of the Gospel Ministry, including the sustentation of their minister; of all collections for missionary purposes, buildings, &c., according to a schedule to be furnished for that purpose by the Sustentation Board; and that the Clerks of Presbyteries transmit the same to the Synod Clerk and the Secretary of the Sustentation Board, in sufficient time each year to be laid before the meeting of Synod for their information, and in order that they may be better enabled to judge of the resources of each congregation, and of the number that may require aid for the support of the ministry; and also that the Presbyteries be instructed to remonstrate with such congregations as they may consider are not doing their duty in that respect to the extent of their ability.

The Synod agreed that the following gentlemen shall constitute the Sustentation Board for the ensuing year:

President,—John Redpath, Esq.

Vice Presidents,—Andrew Jeffrey and James Gibb, Esqrs.

Treasurer,—William P. McLaren, Esq.

Secretary,—James Walker, Esq.

Sustentation Scheme.

J. McMurrich, J. Shaw, J. F. Westland, and A. McGlashan, Esqrs., *Toronto;* C. C. Ferrie, D. McNab, J. Osborne, J. Davidson, and W. Cook, Esqrs., *Hamilton;* W. Notman, and J. McKenzie, Esqrs., *Dundas;* J. Munn, Esq., *Quebec;* J. Orr, and E. McIver, Esqrs., *Montreal;* Dr. Dickson, and K. McKenzie, Esqrs., *Kingston;* J. Fraser, Esq., *London;* James Dougall, Esq., *Amherstburgh*.

At half-past six the Synod was closed with the apostolical blessing.

SESSION XV.

HAMILTON, *9th June,*
Tuesday. 7½ P. M.

The Synod was constitued with praise and prayer.

Report on Funds.

Mr. Burns gave in the report on the Funds of the Church, and the same was read; whereupon, on motion made and seconded, it was unanimously agreed that the Report be sustained; that the diligence of the Committee be commended, and that the Report be re-committed, with instructions to the Committee to complete their digest of the accounts for publication, including the account of the Visitation Fund; as also to propose forms and directions for keeping the accounts of the various funds of the Church; that the Synod adopt the conditions suggested by the Committee in regard to the grant for Church building, and appoint the same to be carried into effect.

The Synod agreed to take up the overture from the Presbytery of Hamilton on Home Missions in connection with the report on visitations. The overture was read.

Report on Visitations.

Dr. Burns, in behalf of the Committee on Visitations, gave in a report of the visitations in so far as they had been made. The Synod received and sustained the report, and agreed to refer the same to the following committee:—The Moderator and Clerk, Dr. Burns (Convener), Mr. Harris, Mr. Esson, Mr. Gale, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Reid, Ministers, Mr. Westland and Mr. Burns, Elders, with instructions to them to complete the report as soon as they shall be in possession of returns from the visitations that have yet to be made, and submit it to the Commission for their approval; and after the same shall have been so approved, to transmit a copy of it to the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland.

The Synod adopted the following scheme for completing the visitations: Mr. Roger and Mr. Reid, Ministers; and Mr. Redpath, Elder, to visit the Presbytery of Toronto. Mr. McLachlan, Deputy, and Mr. McIver, Elder, Perth and Montreal Presbyteries. Mr. Bayne and Mr. Alexander, the Presbyteries of Kingston and Brockville. Dr. Burns and Mr. Fraser, Deputy, the Western part of the Presbytery of Hamilton.

Home Missions.

The Synod, on motion made and seconded, unanimously sustained the overture on Home Missions, and adopted the following Resolutions:

Resolutions concerning.

1. That the Committee be instructed to prepare and publish a digest of the Home Mission Report.

2. That the overture be referred to the Committee, with instructions to bring the various suggestions annexed to it before the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland, in such form as they may see fit.

3. That Presbyteries be recommended to carry out according to suggestions formerly issued by the Home Mission Committee, the scheme for arranging the Missionary field within their several bounds into Missionary Districts and Stations; such Districts to be placed under the superintendence of a minister of the Presbytery.

4. That the Home Mission Committee be authorised to distribute such Missionaries as may be at the disposal of the Church according to the wants of the several Presbyteries; to offer suggestions from time to time for conducting Home Missions and obtaining reports from them, the Missionaries being subject to the direction of the several Presbyteries during their residence within their respective bounds.

Overture for change of act on admission of Ministers.

The Synod called for the overture of the Presbytery of Kingston for an alteration of the act for the admission of ministers. The overture was read, and several members of that Presbytery were heard in support of the same. After reasoning, the Synod appointed Mr. Gale and Mr. Gordon, to draft a resolution, embodying the amendments on the act about which a general agreement had been expressed.

The Synod agreed to meet to-morrow at 9 A. M., for devotional exercises.

The Synod was closed with the Apostolical Blessing.

SESSION XVI.

HAMILTON, *10th June,*
Wednesday, 9 A. M.

The Synod met for devotional exercises, and devoted an hour to praise, prayer, and reading the Word of God.

At 10 A.M., the Synod was constituted with prayer for business.

Abstract Minutes

The Synod appointed the Clerk to prepare and print a full abstract of the Minutes of the present Session, and extracts of the Minutes of the Sessions of 1844 and 1845. The following Committee to superintend the printing and distribution of the same:—Mr. Rintoul, Convener; Dr. Burns, Mr. Gale, Mr. Harris, Ministers; Mr. Westland, Mr. Paterson, and Mr. Burns, Elders.

Mr. Gale and Mr. Gordon laid on the table, a draft of amendment of the act of Synod of the 9th June, 1845, respecting the admission of ministers and preachers of other churches; the draft was read, amended, and adopted, and the whole act runs as follows:—

Amended act for admission of Ministers.

The ministers and licentiates of churches strictly and intimately in connection with this church, and who shall have come in the way of orderly translation, or who shall have been expressly designated or commissioned as ministers or as missionaries, by such churches to this church, shall on application to any Presbytery and on producing the proper documentary evidence, be at once received and admitted as ministers or probationers of this church. And that in respect of all others making application to any Presbytery for admission into the church, and producing at the time of such application satisfactory testimonials of their good and regular standing in the churches with which they have previously been connected, they shall be dealt with as the Presbytery may see fit, in the way of private conference, examination, and hearing them preach, with a view of fully ascertaining their personal piety, soundness in the faith, their ministerial gifts and efficiency, and their prudence and propriety of deportment; and when the Presbytery shall deem it to be necessary for greater satisfaction in regard to any or all of these points, they shall communicate with parties who may be able to communicate the information required as to the applicants; And that when the Presbytery shall have been fully satisfied, and are agreed to record their satisfaction;—they shall cause circular letters containing duly certified copies of such deliverance, with reference to the specific grounds of it, to be transmitted to the Synod Clerk, as also to the several Presbyteries; that the Presbyteries shall record a deliverance thereon at their first ordinary meeting, if within three months of the date of the circular letter, and if not, at a special meeting to be called within that time, and transmit a copy of such deliverance without delay to the Synod Clerk who shall lay these documents before the commission of Synod at the first stated meeting thereof; and in the event of the deliverance of Presbyteries being favourable, the commission shall hear the applicant preach, and if they deem it necessary, examine him, and if satisfied in the whole premises, shall record a deliverance to that effect, and remit accordingly to the Presbytery within whose bounds the applicant resides, to receive him as a minister or probationer, according as the case may be, of this Church: But in the event of any appeal being taken against the favourable deliverance of the Presbytery to whom the application for admission is made, or any objections being offered by any of the other Presbyteries, that the application shall be referred to the Synod.

Reference respecting Deacons.

The Synod called for reference from the Presbytery of Hamilton, calling on the Synod to take the duties and the privileges of the deacons' office into consideration, and propose an act respecting the same, for the information and guidance of congregations. An extract from the records of the Presbytery was read, together with an extract from the records of the Deacons' Court of Knox's Church, Hamilton, on which said reference had been founded. Several members of the Presbytery of Hamilton were heard in explanation of the reference. The Synod had long reasoning on the subject, when, on motion made and seconded, it was unanimously agreed to sustain the reference, and recommend to Elders and Deacons to manifest all forbearance in regard to the performance of their respective duties, and in the meantime, in consideration of their being some difference of opinion respecting the peculiar duties of Elders and Deacons, remit to the committee on calls and a code of discipline to consider the whole subject, and draft a series of regulations on the respective duties of Elders and Deacons, and report to the Synod at its next meeting.

The Synod agreed to meet at half-past three, P. M.

At half-past 1, P. M., the Synod was closed with prayer.

SESSION XVII.

HAMILTON, 10*th June*,
Wednesday, 3½, *P. M.*

The Synod met, and was constituted with prayer. The minutes of the former Session were read.

Overture.

The Synod took up an overture from the Presbytery of Kingston, respecting certain measures for promoting the order, purity and spirituality of the Church.

Report on Calls, &c.

The Synod heard in connection with this overture an interim report from Mr. Smellie, in behalf of a committee on the subject of calls and constitutions, and a code of discipline. The Synod sustained the overture and the Report of the Committee, and appointed Mr. Smellie, Convener; the Moderator, Mr. Stark, Mr. Cheyne, Ministers;—Mr. Ewen, Mr. Milne, Mr. Davidson, Elders; a committee to prepare a draft of regulations on the order, discipline, and government of the Church.

Pastoral Letter on Intemperance.

The Synod also agree to issue a pastoral letter to the members of the Church, embodying the suggestions in the overture; the Moderator to prepare the same and sign it in name of the Synod.

The Synod took up an overture from several ministers and elders, for the issuing of a strong recommendation to all the members of the Synod, to abstain entirely from all intoxicating liquors, and to discourage, by influence and example, drinking usages, which prove the bane of society. The overture was considered, and the Synod unanimously adopted the following resolutions :—

That inasmuch as it appears that habits of intemperance have of late been greatly on the increase in not a few places of the Province, and that these habits are the prolific source of a large proportion of the sins of society and the church; and whereas the sin of intemperance operates as a strong barrier in the way of the success of the Gospel ministry; and whereas there is reason to fear that the sin will go on with rapid strides, just in proportion as the Province increases in population and in wealth, unless some strenuous effort be made to check its progress: The Synod agree to enjoin all its members to discourage, by their influence and example, the ordinary use of intoxicating liquors, and those drinking usages which have so long proved the bane of society. The Synod farther agree to enjoin all Presbyteries and Sessions to use their best endeavours to the same effect, in the exercise of faithful and scriptural discipline.

Resolutions respecting College.

The report of the committee on the suggestions and recommendations contained in the College Report, was read and approved, when, on motion made and seconded, it was agreed that the College shall be called "KNOX'S COLLEGE"—and, in conformity with the recommendations of the report, that the College Committee to be appointed shall take the steps indicated in the report for raising funds, obtaining a site in Toronto for College buildings, establishing an Academy or High School, and appointing a Master for the same; and the Moderator was instructed to correspond with the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland, for the immediate appointment of an additional Professor of Theology from the list of five ministers of the Free Church of Scotland submitted by the committee.

College Committee.

The Synod appointed the following members, the College Committee for the ensuing year:—The Moderator, Mr. Rintoul, convener; Dr. Burns, Mr. Esson, Mr. Harris, Mr. Gale, Mr. Stark, Mr. Cheyne, Mr. Roger, Mr. Reid, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Leishman, Mr. Clugston, Ministers; Mr. Westland, Mr. Paterson, Mr. Burns, Mr. Davidson, Mr. Redpath, Elders; John McMurrich, Esq., Treasurer—seven to be a quorum for ordinary business, and nine a quorum for the meeting, at which a Master for the Academical Institution shall be elected, while the committee shall not proceed to make an election until thirty days shall have elapsed after a resolution to elect shall have been come to, or until after the chairman has summoned a meeting for this purpose, through the *Record* or otherwise.

Admission of Students.

Mr. Esson, in name of the committee on the admission of students, gave in a report on the course of study to be pursued in the College, which was read and sustained, when it was resolved to refer the same to the College Committee for their guidance in the interim, with instructions to them to revise the same, and submit it to the Commission for their approval.

Synod Fund.

The Synod resolved that funds for meeting the ordinary expenses of the Synod and other contingences, heretofore raised by a general collection, shall for the ensuing year be raised by a small assessment, to be made by the Committee on Public Accounts, with a due regard to the ability of every several congregation, and notified by a circular early in January next.

Stated collections.

The Synod agreed that four collections shall be made in all congregations and Mission Stations for the ensuing year, according to the following scheme:

1st. For the Foreign or Jewish Missions of the Free Church of Scotland,—on the first Sabbath of September.

2nd. For Knox's College,—on the first Sabbath of December.

3rd. For the Home Mission of each particular Presbytery,—on the first Sabbath of March.

4th. For the French Canadian Missionary Society,—on the last Sabbath of May.

The following committees shall charge themselves with notifying and looking after these collections:

For the collection for Foreign Missions of Free Church—Mr. Alexander, convener; Mr. Reid, Mr. Hamilton, Ministers; Mr. Milne, Elder.

For the collection for the College—the College Committee.

For the collection for Home Missions—the Home Mission Committee.

For the collection for the French Canadian Missionary Society—Mr. Leishman, convener; the officiating minister of Coté Street Church, Montreal, and Mr. Redpath, Elder.

Application in behalf of Mr. David McKenzie.

The Synod heard read a memorial from certain individuals in the townships of Yarmouth and Westminster in behalf of Mr. David McKenzie, who had been deposed from the ministry by the Presbytery of Torgue in Scotland. The Synod had read the Minutes of the Commission on the reference to them by the Presbytery of Hamilton respecting the said Mr. David McKenzie, of date Kingston, October 1st, 1845; whereupon the Synod, approving of the resolution of the Commission in regard to said reference, resolved that the memorial be referred to the Presbytery of Hamilton, with instructions to them to take any decisive and final procedure in the case, without farther reference to the Synod, as to them shall seem good, except the reponing of Mr. McKenzie in the ministry.

Application of Mr. Cairncross.

Mr. Gale reported to the Synod that Mr. James Cairncross, formerly minister at Birsay, Orkney, Scotland, and of the Associate Synod of Original Seceders, had applied to the Presbytery of Hamilton for admission into the church. The Synod agreed that the Presbytery of Hamilton should meet with Mr. Cairncross, and deal with him as the act on the admission of ministers required.

Committee on *Record*.

The Synod appointed the following committee for superintending the publication of the *Ecclesiastical and Missionary Record*, viz., Mr. Gale, convener; Mr. Stark, Mr. Cheyne, Ministers; Mr. Ewen, Mr. Colville, Elders; Mr. D. McLellan, Deacon—with instructions to them to make such remuneration to the Editor and Publisher as they shall see fit—the Publisher to use all diligence in collecting arrears due for the publication.

Home Mission Committee.

The Synod appointed the following Home Mission Committee, viz., the Moderator and Clerk; Mr. Gale, convener; Dr. Burns, Mr. Mackintosh, Mr. Smellie, Mr. Stark, Mr. William Reid, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Robert Reid, Mr. McKinnon, Ministers; Mr. Ewen, Mr. Milne, Mr. Bastedo, Mr. Davidson, Mr. Colville, Elders.

Commission.

The Synod appointed the following members to be their Commission for the ensuing year, to attend to the matters referred to them, and watch over the general interests of the church, viz.:

The Moderator and Clerk.

From the Presbytery of Kingston—Mr. William Hamilton, Mr. Robert Reid, Mr. Henry Gordon, Ministers; Mr. A. Auchinvole, Elder.

From the Presbytery of Brockville—Mr. William Smart, Mr. Robert Boyd, Ministers; Mr. George Scott, Elder.

From the Presbytery of Perth—Mr. Thomas Wardrope, Mr. Andrew Melville, Ministers; Mr. Donald Kennedy, Elder.

From the Presbytery of Montreal—Mr. John Clugston, Mr. William Leishman, Ministers; Mr. John Redpath, Elder.

From the Presbytery of Hamilton—Mr. Mark Y. Stark, Mr. Alexander Gale, Mr. Angus Mackintosh, Mr. George Smellie, Mr. George Cheyne, Dr. Ferrier, Ministers; Mr. Gilbert Bastedo, Mr. Robert Ewen, Mr. George Davidson, Elders.

From the Presbytery of Toronto—Dr. Burns, Mr. James Harris, Mr. Henry Esson, Ministers; Mr. James F. Westland, Mr. James Paterson, Mr. James Frazer, Mr. John Burns, Elders.

From the Presbytery of Cobourg—Mr. John M. Roger, Mr. Thomas Alexander, Mr. William Reid, Ministers; Mr. Andrew Milne, Mr. Donald McRae, Elders.

Meetings of Commission.

The Commission to have two stated meetings during the year, viz., at Toronto, on the last Wednesday of October, and again at the same place on the first Wednesday of February—and not to have any adjournments, excepting such as may be made from day to day at the stated meetings—and Presbyteries are instructed to use diligence to have one or more of their ministers at these meetings.

Thanks for hospitality;

The Synod agreed to record their thanks to the friends in Hamilton for the Christian hospitality received at their hands by the Ministers and Elders of the Synod, during the meeting in Hamilton.

For use of Church.

The Synod agreed to record their thanks to the Ministers, Elders, and Deacons of Knox's Church, Hamilton, for the use of the same during the present sessions.

Next meeting

The Synod agreed that the next meeting shall be held at Kingston, on the first Wednesday of June, 1847, to be opened with sermon by the Moderator, at the hour of 7, P. M.

The Synod was closed with the apostolical blessing, at half-past 12, night.

RECEIPTS OF DIFFERENT FUNDS, UP TO 31ST MAY, 1846.

Presbytery of Hamilton.	Home Mission.	Synod Fund.	College Fund.	Foreign Mission.	Bursary Fund.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Grimsby		4 0 0		22 13 10	
Hamilton congregation £15 0					
Do. Ladies' Association 92 6					
	107 6 0		36 13 0	15 12 10	
Do. Ladies					10 0 0
Dunville	15 9 6				
Dundas and Ancaster	5 17 11	4 4 4½	11 3 1	5 14 9	
Do. Ladies					5 0 0
Ancaster, 6th concession	7 5 11		0 15 0	0 15 0	
Sarnia and Plympton	4 5 0	2 0 0	9 10 0	0 15 0	
Binbrook and Saltfleet	3 0 0	1 0 0	4 9 8	2 11 5	
Ayr		1 0 0	3 0 0	2 5 0	
Williams	7 0 0	1 15 0	5 12 6		
Ditto, D. Frazer	5 0 0		5 0 0		
Zorra	3 16 3		23 7 0	12 0 0	
Galt	1 17 6		10 0 0		
Thorold	1 6 10	0 16 3	1 9 3	1 15 0	
Fergus	3 16 0		6 0 0	2 15 4	
Stratford	3 16 7	1 0 0	2 10 0	4 5 0	
Puslinch	4 2 7		8 11 4	4 0 0	
Amherstburgh		1 10 0	1 10 0		
Stanley and Tuckersmith			1 0 0	1 2 9	
Nelson, Waterdown, and Wellington Square	28 15 7				
Aldboro'	18 15 0		5 10 0		
Woolwich					
Niagara	7 5 0		2 6 0		
Guelph	11 10 0				
Caledonia	9 11 3				
London	6 5 0		10 11 7	5 0 0	
Owen Sound	3 4 8				
Woodstock	12 5 0				
Welland	6 15 0		1 0 0		
Dunwich	2 10 0		7 7 6		
Eckfred and Mosa	13 0 0		2 2 3		
St. Thomas	6 10 2		4 15 4		
Nottawassaga	1 4 2				
Sundry stations, per Rev. A. Gale	25 0 0				
Colonial Com., Free Church of Scotland	51 1 9				
Ingersoll			1 10 0		
Presbytery of Hamilton					7 10 0

Presbytery of Toronto.	Home Mission.	Synod Fund.	College Fund.	Foreign Mission.	Bursary Fund.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Toronto congregation	25 0 0	22 15 0	71 9 0	41 5 0	20 0 0
" Ladies' Association	25 11 6		1 7 3		10 0 0
" Male and Female Bible Classes	6 8 0				
" Sabbath School	3 2 0				7 0 0
Miss Ross' School					7 10 0
" Presbytery					6 15 0
Caledon	15 8 7		3 18 10		
Esquesing, Union Church	26 14 2½		4 10 9		
" Boston Church	18 17 6		2 5 0	1 15 0	
" Norval Church	15 6 5		1 18 5		
Streetsville	6 1 7½	1 5 0	8 14 0	11 3 0	
" Rev. W. Rintoul			3 0 0		5 0 0
" Mrs. Simpson					0 5 0
" Children's offering				1 13 9	
York Township					
Trafalgar	15 0 0		4 3 9		
Oakville	5 13 11½		3 15 0		
Markham	7 7 4				
Vaughan	10 15 0		2 5 4		
Medonte	6 0 0				
Chinguacousy	22 2 10	0 12 10	8 8 10		
Eldon	10 10 0				
West Gwillimbury	34 18 11				
Thorah	21 0 0				
Nassagaweya	1 14 8½				
Acton	2 0 0		0 15 0		
Mono	2 5 9				
Brock	2 12 4				
Oro	1 10 0				
Reach	1 5 0				
King	12 15 0		5 5 0		
Barwick and Pine Grove	8 11 3				
Colonial Com., Free Church of Scotland	51 1 9				
Chinguacousy, donation per Mr. May	2 10 0				
D. McCutcheon	0 15 0				
E. M. Stewart	1 0 0				
Metis, C. E.			1 0 0		
Donation, John Thom, Esq.			2 10 0		
Interest from Buchanan Fund			10 0 0		
Donation, Isaac Buchanan, Esq.			100 0 0		
Isaac Buchanan, Esq., Knox Bursary					10 0 0
S. Buchanan, Esq. do.					10 0 0
From General Assembly, Free Church of Scotland, £20, currency, and interest £1 4s. 8d.					21 4 8
From Friend in Glasgow, per Mr. Spreull					13 6 10

Presbytery of Cobourg.	Home Mission.			Synod Fund.			College Fund.			Foreign Mission.			Bursary Fund.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cavan, South	3	9	8½	1	9	8½	7	18	8						
Peterboro' and Cavan	29	18	7½	2	0	0	8	15	7	3	4	0			
Donation from a lady in Scotl'd	5	0	0				2	0	0						
Grafton and Colborne	5	15	6	1	10	0	5	18	6	7	10	0	10	0	0
Cobourg	10	0	0	2	0	0	17	8	11	5	0	0			
" Ladies' Association	5	8	7												
Darlington and Clarke	12	13	0				8	19	0	2	5	0			
Donation from Mr. Jas. Hall	4	2	6												
Otonabee	10	0	0												
Colonial Com., Free Church of Scotland	51	1	9												
Presbytery of Kingston.															
Kingston										8	12	2			
Brockville				1	0	0	2	15	0						
Prescott	1	0	0	1	0	0	13	0	0						
Gananoque				0	12	6	6	5	0						
Demorestville				1	0	0									
Camden															
Picton	3	18	7½				3	10	0						
Belleville															
Perth	9	14	3												
Missionary Society										14	5	0			
Bytown							3	6	8	6	1	3			
Edwardsburgh	21	13	0												
South Gower	9	4	9½												
Colonial Com., Free Church of Scotland	51	1	9												
Presbytery of Montreal.															
St. Gabriel Street, Montreal							45	7	4						
Quebec				5	0	0	43	0	0	10	2	6			
Indian Lands, Glengary															
St. Therese															
La Chute							5	0	0						
Coté Street, Montreal	10	9	7												
Donation from a lady in Scotl'd	7	7	0	6	10	6	17	14	10	32	5	2			

N. B. The above accounts have been made out, with the aid of a gentleman in Toronto, from the papers left in the hands of the Clerk by the Committee on Accounts. The payments to the Synod Fund, made after the 31st May, have not been inserted, as the books of the Treasurer to that fund were balanced up to that date.

The disbursements are not given as in some of the funds, particularly the Missionary Fund, the amounts due had not been presented and settled at the time of the meeting of the Synod. It is hoped, that, against another year, all the funds will be regularly balanced up to the 31st May, that full accounts of disbursements as well as receipts may be published.

TORONTO, 20*th October*, 1846.

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